METCHOSIN FOUNDATION 2022 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING Wednesday, September 07, 2022 at 7:00 pm

Venue: Zoom Meeting

Present: Valerie Jaeger (President, Chair), Morgan Yates (Vice President), Nicole Lalonde (Treasurer), Beverley

Hall (Secretary), Mike Fischer (Director), Jacqueline Clare (Director), Chris Pratt (Director), Carol Carman

(Director), Joan Rosenberg (Director), members and other guests (36 people attended, including

Directors)

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

Territorial Acknowledgement:

The 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. She pointed out that as foundations go, being founded in 2008, Metchosin Foundation is a very young foundation. She introduced our new Director, Heloise Nicholl

2. Introduction to our new Director, Heloise Nicholl

Heloise grew up in Oak Bay and attended university in Vancouver and Toronto. She has degrees in Communications and International Development and has worked with the Federal Government, the Government of British Columbia (Citizens' Services) and various non-profit groups including the Dogwood Initiative and the Inter-Cultural Association of Greater Victoria.

In keeping with the Metchosin Foundation's motto of 'Healthy Lands and Waters — the Foundation for a Healthy Community' Heloise joined the Metchosin Foundation with a desire to protect the wild spaces upon which we depend; forests that are the lungs of our city, and wilderness that provides mental wellness, recreation and relaxation to our citizens. She is excited to work in a role that will allow for awareness-raising about the need to protect our wild lands, plants and animals, efforts that will allow Metchosin to sparkle and remain the jewel that it is.

Valerie knows her as being passionate, articulate, reliable, kind and connected. In fact Heloise led us to our speaker Erica Gies, and she asked Heloise to introduce Erica.

3. Introduction to our speaker, Erica Gies

Erica Gies is an award-winning independent journalist who writes about water, climate change, plants and critters for Scientific American, The New York Times, Nature, The Atlantic, The Guardian, National Geographic, The Economist, Washington Post, bioGraphic, Wired, and more.

Her book, Water Always Wins: Thriving in an age of drought and deluge, is about what she calls "Slow Water" innovations that are helping us adapt to the increasing floods and droughts brought by climate change. She is represented by The Martell Agency in New York.

As a speaker and moderator, Erica talks about the environmental issues she covers, especially Slow Water. Engagements include on NPR's Science Friday, at conferences, and at schools, including Princeton, Stanford, and U.C. California's Institute for Water Resources. Erica is also a National Geographic Explorer among other highlights and though she splits her time between Canada and the US, we are blessed to have her living here as a true Victoria local.

Erica we are honoured to have you here this evening.

A recording of Erica Gies's talk will be posted on the Metchosin Website

4. Business Meeting

A. Review of Activities

Led by **Valerie Jaeger**, the activities since the 2021 AGM were reviewed by the Director most involved with the project (attached as Appendix A).

B. Approval of Minutes of 2021 AGM

Moved by Nicole Lalonde and seconded by Carol Carman that the minutes be accepted as presented. Carried.

C. Approval of Financial Report to December 31, 2021

Moved by Chris Pratt and seconded by Jacqueline Clare that the financial report be accepted as presented by Nicole Lalonde, treasurer. Carried.

The financial report is in Appendix B and the treasurer's report in Appendix A.

D. **Directors Resolution (Omnibus Motion),** 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 7, 2022

WE, Jacqueline Clare, Michael Fischer, Beverley Hall, Christopher 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 3 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 1 of 2nd term of 4 years) until successors are appointed in accordance with the bylaws:

Christopher Pratt Morgan Yates

3. 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:

Carol Carman Joan Rosenberg

4. The following person is confirmed as re-elected as Director of the Society (year 3 of 1st term of 4 years) until successors are appointed in accordance with the bylaws:

Valerie Jaeger

5. The following person is confirmed as elected as Director of the Society (year 1 of 1st term of 4 years) until a successor is appointed in accordance with the bylaws:

Heloise Nicholl

- 6. The appointment of an auditor is confirmed as waived for the coming year.
- 7. The Members of the Society hereby confirm February 12 (incorp. Anniversary date) as the annual reference date for the Society.
- 8. The Solicitors for the coming year are confirmed to be MacIsaac and MacIsaac, Sooke Road, Victoria, B.C.

rector and Member
VERLEY HALL
rector and Member
ORGAN YATES
rector and Member
AN ROSENBERG
rector and Member

Moved by Ric Perron and seconded by Rod Mitchell: Omnibus Motion to pass the Directors' Resolution as presented. Carried.

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

Closing Remarks

With respect to our motto, of Healthy Lands and Healthy Waters – the foundation for a healthy community, the only thing we can be sure of is Change. "Population Growth in the CRD" and "Climate Change" are two certainties. However, it has been said: "The Art of Good Leadership is the orderly management of Change." This is the role and purpose of the Metchosin Foundation.

At 9:10 Motion for adjournment: Moved by Morgan Yates and seconded by Chris Pratt) that the meeting be adjourned. Carried

Appendix A

Annual Report on Metchosin Foundation projects

September 2021 - September 2022

Metchosin Foundation AGM September 7, 2022

Review of Activities since the 2021 AGM

1. President's Report (Valerie Jaeger)

The Foundation has had a wonderful year. Our task of working towards healthy lands and healthy waters, the foundation of a healthy community has never been harder because of external forces such as climate and demographics but at the same time, perhaps never been easier. The work of the Metchosin Foundation is the ultimate test of design thinking – balancing seeming opposites within a social and physical environment with external changing parameters beyond our control. Our projects range from the small – purchasing native plant seeds - to the larger – building a true base of citizen science research or aspirations of land conservation. All of our projects, small and large, also have within them the tension of time – our actions now must be the basis for contributing to a better 'later'. Working within our statutory requirement as a registered charity to be apolitical, we still have to somehow find results in a social landscape where ethics and science themselves are viewed as political. But, Thanks to the foundation's amazing group of directors, members, and supporters we have managed to do so and will continue to do so.

Just because something is priceless or something that somebody does is priceless, does not necessarily mean that either is ethically devalued by the process of putting a price on it – and so we raise money, that is what Foundations do, and we are so grateful to our many donors this year. Thank you.

The Foundation Board has a life cycle of its own and this year we say Good Bye to our treasurer Nicole. If we are called to give of our time, talent and treasure, Nicole has certainly done all three. Although it is Nicole's last AGM it is not yet the end of the AGM so we will hear more about that in the second half of the meeting. An AGM is also a time to formally welcome a new Director, Heloise Nicholl.

2. Treasurer's Report (Nicole Lalonde) (see Appendix B for Financial Report)

As many of you can attest this has been a roller-coaster of a year in financial markets. Charitable and non-profit organizations have not been immune to the upheaval but thanks to some sound practices and the generosity of our supporters, the Metchosin Foundation is holding steady and able to pursue its many goals. Before I begin I would like to personally welcome and thank our newest member Mairi MacKinnon for taking on the role of bookkeeper. Her attention to details and high standard of accuracy and integrity means that the MF is in good hands for many years ahead.

- The balance in general funds at year end 2021 was \$75,391 compared to \$44,660 five years ago.
- The MF is also responsible for the Valerie Cochran Memorial Fund of \$9,000.
- In September 2021 we received a significant donation to our scholarship fund. Thanks to this and to the
 continued support of other donors we have been able to increase the amount of each of our
 scholarships to \$1000.

- In December the Bilston Creek Farm held a fundraiser for the Foundation. All those who attended the Oyster & Bubbles event were most generous and the MF was the fortunate recipient of donations totaling \$16,000.
- The MF Stewardship Fund is a fund managed on our behalf by the Victoria Foundation. Although the capital of this fund cannot be withdrawn, the return on investment covers our basic operating expenses and therefore allows us to use every donated dollar to directly support projects. The amount in this fund is \$53402.77.

Finally, the Board of the Metchosin Foundation wishes to thank each and every one of our supporters. It inspires us to move forward and tackle small and big projects, trying to remain relevant and current in our goals in order to preserve healthy land and healthy waters for a healthy community.

3. Insect Biomass Study (Mike Fischer)

The Metchosin Flying Insect Biomass Study aims to emulate a long-term landmark study done in Germany which tracked an alarming 75% decrease in insect biomass over 25 years. We hope to gain an understanding of insect biomass trends in our own region, and produce useful information on how habitat types and conservation, as well as climatic trends may play into them. This project is a partnership between UVic, Metchosin Foundation, and the Royal BC Museum. It is made possible by the many citizen scientists in Metchosin who have graciously provided sites on their properties for Malaise traps -- tent-like structures that collect flying insects on 2-week sample cycles for study.

Update for 2022:

- The number of traps was reduced to 11 due to a growing backlog with sample sorting. Sample sorting is the major bottleneck of the project, and we hope to be able to remove this with more project resources.
- The pursuit of external matching funding, as we have typically done every year, to help support a laboratory assistant for Dr. Winchester for a full year seemed promising but was ultimately unsuccessful. However, we were successful in our application for a \$5k Municipal surplus grant, which, together with support from the Metchosin Foundation employed a summer semester co-op student to help work through the sample backlog.
- Additional help with the sample backlog will begin this fall with the help of a local citizen scientist volunteer, working in a location in Metchosin that has been secured to conduct the work.
- Bill and Linda Cave continued their excellent Malaise trap setup, maintenance, and sample bottle distribution
 and collection work, and have added another citizen scientist volunteer duo, Andy Yatsco and Coreen Chiswell,
 to their field team to help share the load.
- In 2023 we will need to replace many of the Malaise traps due to weather and sun damage. As well, the pursuit of larger, more stable long-term funding for the project is ongoing. With enough resources, we also hope to make progress on a project website and database, and conduct vegetation/land cover surveys of the trap sites to link habitat type variables to the sample data.
- We had a project update meeting on May 26th where Honours student Hannah Hickli presented her thesis -drawn from data collected by the project -- entitled "Seasonal Dynamics of an Urban Leafhopper Community in
 Metchosin, BC -- Investigating Diversity Trends, Parasitoid Relationships, and the Potential for a Defensive
 Sybiosis". This is the second honours thesis that has been produced as a spinoff of this study.
- Big thanks again go out to all our Malaise trap host citizen scientists, past and present, who have kindly offered space on their properties for the sample collection field work to be done.

• Donations of funds or citizen science skills toward the Metchosin Flying Insect Biomass Study are welcome, as always. Interested folks can donate or get in contact with us via the Metchosin Foundation website.

4. Moralea's Meadow Project (volunteer-led, with Foundation support) (Bev Hall)

In January 2019, over 3.5 years ago, permissions from the municipality and financial support from the Metchosin Foundation were in place to allow for the restoration of the small Garry Oak meadow on the municipal grounds in memory of Moralea Milne. The sign honouring Moralea, designed by Bonnie Farris, was installed near the bench this past year. A second progress report was presented to the Foundation, and to the Municipal Council on March 14. Much progress has been made; much work remains to be done.

We are grateful for the community's small group of volunteers who work two hours each week to finish the new path, to remove invasive grasses and weeds, and to prepare areas for planting of native species found in Garry Oak meadows. Katy Nelson puts in many additional hours harvesting bulbs from her own property and rescuing plants from the Central Mountain site. She continues to work significant hours in the meadow to mow and whipper-snipper the grasses where there is no *Camas* growth.

In March we received a \$3,000 grant from Pollinator Partnership Canada to buy native plants and seeds for the meadow. These were planted at the end of March and added to the delightful spring blossoms of those planted the previous year. We are very thankful to Kristin and James Miskelly who continue to give helpful direction of what, where and when to plant, and for Metchosin citizens who contribute funds each year for this restoration project. We also thank the Metchosin Foundation for continued financial support.

Whether you've had years of experience or are just beginning to understand the natural beauty in which we live, we invite new volunteers to join in hands-on learning about best restoration practices.

5. Scholarships & Educational Initiatives

One of the approaches that the Metchosin Foundation is taking to reach our vision of healthy lands and waters for a healthy community is to support young leaders who dedicate time and energy to social and environmental causes. Since 2017, the Metchosin Foundation has offered four scholarships to members of the Metchosin and Beecher Bay (Sc'ianew) communities, made possible by the generous donors from our community. This year, we were able to increase the scholarships to \$1,000 and had many high-quality applications. The winners of the 2022 scholarships demonstrated compassion, intelligence, leadership, and a strong work ethic.

This year's winners are:

- Community Citizenship Scholarship Rebecca Parson
- Moralea Milne Beecher Bay (Sc'ianew) Community Scholarship Brianna Blackmore
- Academic Achievement Scholarship Jim Wheen

We did not receive any applications for the Environmental Stewardship Scholarship. Now that school is back in session, I will connect with the school councillors to brainstorm ways to encourage students to engage in activities that promote environmental stewardship, so that they are comfortable applying for this scholarship. I will suggest activities such as submitting species observations to iNaturalist, removing invasive plants, cleaning up garbage, working on local restoration projects, and contributing to environmental education and will pass on links and resources for councillors to share with students.

We have also started discussing expanding our scholarship program to the post-secondary level. We are exploring potential options such as offering grants to students who undertake research relevant to our community and are looking forward to continuing this discussion in the upcoming year.

6. Foundation Communications (Carol Carman)

Many thanks to the Metchosin Muse team led by Editors Johnny Carline and Allen Jones. This newspaper is a major strength in building and maintaining the Metchosin community and we thank you.

Major communications since our September 2021 AGM are found on:

- Our Website: metchosinfoundation.ca maintained by Mike Fischer
 - Foundation activities
 - Methods of donating
- Metchosin Muse Metchosin Foundation Summary October 2021 to September 2022
 - o Regular monthly ads
 - o Articles:

October: Metchosin Foundation Scholarships for 2021 – Jacqueline Clare

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

November: Metchosin Foundation AGM – Valerie Jaeger

Stressed strong community relationships with UVic, ArtPod, MACCA, Rocky Point Bird Observatory, Beecher Bay Learning Centre, Pearson College, Saanich Native Plants, HAT, The Land Conservancy of BC, The Victoria Foundation, The Bateman Foundation, and VanCity Community Foundation.

December: Under the Surface: - the Garry Oak Ecosystem - Morgan Yates

Described Metchosin Foundation's financial support of a new, collaborative study of one of our region's most iconic ecosystems; specifically, research of the mycorrhizal fungi associated with the roots of Garry oak trees and based on recent advances in DNA analysis.

2022

January: The U.N. Decade of Eco System Restoration Through a Local Lens – Valerie Jaeger More can be done to set the right incentives, celebrate leadership, and shift behaviours – at a local level.

February: Putting the Fun in Fundraising – Morgan Yates

Thanked Andrew and Melanie Penn and the outstanding Bilston Creek Farm team, for their generosity in hosting an amazing soirée and fund-raiser on December 16.

February: Belonging or Belongings by Joan Rosenberg

Thanked Andy MacKinnon and Kem Luther for choosing to support the Metchosin Foundation with their holiday book sales of Mushrooms of British Columbia.

February: Mary Hill Project by Morgan Yates

On Feb 24 an important interim milestone (a "Standstill Agreement") was reached regarding a proposed Indigenous Protected Area at Mary Hill. At a signing ceremony hosted by Sc'ianew First Nation and Te'mexw Treaty Association, Metchosin Foundation president Valerie Jaeger was invited to address the audience. Directors Chris Pratt and Morgan Yates were recognized for their respective roles in the sustained project support that the Foundation has provided to this initiative.

March: Butterfly Way Project by Bev Hall

Metchosin Foundation supported our two schools, Hans Helgesen and WestMont, and the Stewards of Sc'ianew Society at Beecher Bay to buy locally-sourced native seeds and plants. Moralea Milne's Meadow is also part of the Butterfly Way Project

May: Prominent Environmental Advocate, Tzeporah Berman, Speaking in Metchosin by Morgan Yates Unfortunately, this event, partially sponsored by Metchosin Foundation, had to be deferred due to an encounter between the speaker and the coronavirus. However, we hope to reschedule.

June: Counting the Uncounted: Metchosin Flying Insect Biomass Project by Mike Fischer

The 2022 season of the Metchosin Insect Biodiversity project began in May. This project is
described above by Mike Fisher (#3 in Review of Activities). He particularly thanked the group of
dedicated citizen scientists who graciously host insect traps on their properties.

July/August: The Metchosin Foundation 2022 Scholarships - Jacqueline Clare

- Community Citizenship Scholarship Rebecca Parson
- Moralea Milne Beecher Bay (Sc'ianew) Community Scholarship Brianna Blackmore
- Academic Achievement Scholarship Jim Wheen
- Environmental Stewardship no applications this year

7. Foundation Collaboration with Local Artists & Authors (Joan Rosenberg)

This past year the MF continued to weave science, education and art together in our effort to create and maintain healthy communities. In an effort to continue to engage and reach wider audiences we partnered with the Metchosin Artpod and local naturalists to produce our fourth set of nature cards. The mushroom cards have an illustration of a common mushroom on one side and a wonderful description written by Andy MacKinnon and Kem Luther on the other. We also had a spring "mushroom hunt" and talk by Andy and Kem at the ever gracious Bilston Creek Farm, helping them celebrate the seasonal opening of their outside pizza oven.

8. Mary Hill Project & Land Securement Subcommittee (Morgan Yates)

I'd like to speak briefly on the topic of how a small Foundation can contribute effectively to large-scale conservation and land securement opportunities. One strategy can be for the small agency to seek out roles in which it can act as a catalyst and incubator, while actively engaging larger partners who can nurture the opportunity, once it "has legs".

The Sc'ianew-led Mary Hill Project provides an example of this approach. Following a discussion with the Nation's leadership in the late summer of 2018 regarding the updating and refinement of a Foundation scholarship offering, the topic of Mary Hill as potential future treaty settlement land was mentioned, in relation to emerging Sc'ianew priorities. Since then, the Metchosin Foundation has been working, first to conceptualize and then to assist with the early incubation of a creative concept aimed at preserving Mary Hill's unique combination of native habitat types, species at risk, and cultural heritage, while also achieving the critical socioeconomic requirements of future treaty settlement land.

Our role over these past 4 years has been to:

- o identify and help articulate a potential conservation solution
- o invite and encourage our colleagues at Habitat Acquisition Trust to play a key role in the Project
- o assist with capacity fund-raising, to support a multi-agency project feasibility process
- o take a low-key but lead role in inter-agency networking and relationship building
- o provide in-kind accounting services to the Project Steering Team
- o provide photos and species lists for use in donor communications
- o And more

It is fair to say that over these past four years, every member of our current and prior boards has played some role in this list of support activities.

We were thrilled to see the Project arrive at a key milestone, earlier this year. This past February, the four current member agencies of the Project Steering Committee (Sc'ianew First Nation, Habitat Acquisition Trust, Pearson College and the District of Metchosin) executed a Standstill Agreement in which Sc'ianew First Nation committed to look exclusively at a conservation-oriented outcome for Mary Hill treaty settlement land, for a period of 18 months.

This exclusively period is being used to verify the economics of an Indigenous Protected Area and to begin outreach to federal and provincial government agencies and national and international conservation NGOs and philanthropists, to cultivate donor interest and to begin seeking pledges for the major funding that would be required for an Indigenous Protected Area at Mary Hill to become a future reality. Critically, community leaders are also using this time period to familiarize Sc'ianew community members with some of the exceptional attributes of their future treaty settlement land.

From the perspective of the Metchosin Foundation, it is fair to say the egg has hatched and the chick is now being fed by a diverse, multi-agency team. Our Foundation's early role is now nearing completion, with the Project partners having established their own collective momentum.

Although the Sc'ianew First Nation is still many months away from making any decision as to whether or not an Indigenous Protect Area will ultimately be established at Mary Hill, the early interest and enthusiasm we've seen for this land use option is encouraging.

The Foundation has thus arrived at a juncture where internal support resources that have been dedicated to the Mary Hill Project may now be redeployed on other local initiatives.

To this end, as of mid-year this year we have constituted a small land securement subcommittee, to begin looking at habitat conservation options elsewhere in our community. We hope to be able to provide an update on some of the specific efforts of this new subcommittee, in coming months and at next years' AGM. Thank you for your attention.

9. Impressions of a New Director (Heloise Nicholl)

My reasons for working with the Metchosin Foundation

- i. Healthy Lands and Healthy Waters are critically important to me, both personally and for the good of our community and our world.
- ii. I am often faced with anxiety and increasing grief over what we have lost and continue to lose ecologically

 erosion and destruction of our shared lands, air, water, species and climate ecosystems on the
 international scale seem to continue unabated.
- iii. I know the only way to tackle these fears is to take action and contribute to meaningful change through supporting organizations like the Metchosin Foundation. Crucially, this organization is local and represents the most immediate form of education and promotion of the need for ecological protection right here within our municipality.
- iv. What the Metchosin Foundation does locally can serve as a model for other communities. In this way, contribution to the Foundation feels immensely important; for it serves Margaret Meade's famous quote, 'Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has.' What her wise words imply is that small groups can compel other small groups and so on and so on, until large changes are realized through communal effort.
- v. My part on the board has thus far remained small. But I am really truly honored to be learning from great minds around the table, and in this way I hope to meaningfully contribute to future conservation success over the coming years.
- vi. I represent a demographic that is more often missing in volunteerism parents with young kids. It can be difficult and tiring to commit to volunteering with a very busy schedule of work, kids demands and family commitments. But I feel it is critically important, as our kids will inherit the future we are creating every

moment. I want them to inherit a better Earth and in our own small but beautiful corner, a better Metchosin.

vii. If I can also add: It is becoming more difficult to solicit volunteers. Younger people are very oversubscribed and the high cost of living here means people often have multiple jobs and side-gigs too. I am concerned about the lack of volunteers, but also very sympathetic as I struggle with some of this busyness myself. So if I can leave members with one simple request: please tell your friends, your neighbours, your family, your young people and your newly retired people too: Please volunteer, if you can. In whatever capacity you want, with whatever group you want, with this organization or any other, if for no other reason than it is rewarding and a wonderful way to grow community in an increasingly isolated world. Thank you.

Appendix B

METCHOSIN FOUNDATION

Financial Statement @ December 31, 2021

Income		
Bank Interests	262.70	
Donations	29857.43	
Fundraising	11342.39	
Membership	260.00	
Victoria Foundation	3614.99	Community Recovery grant/Annual dividends
	45337.51	
Expenses		
Bank Charges	78.67	
Fundraising	5382.98	
Gifts & Donations	5500.00	Pearson College/Garry Oak Project
Insect Biomass Research Study	2000.00	
Butterfly Way /Mapping Projects	1438.98	
Meadow Restoration	266.26	
Office Expenses	4087.13	Domain/Printing/Computer/ Insurance
Scholarships	3000.00	
Victoria Foundation	1000.00	
	22754.02	
Bank Accounts		
Chequing	75391.36	
Valerie Cochran Memorial Fund	9000.82	
	84392.18	
		:
Metchosin Foundation Stewardship Fund	53402.77	@December 31/2021