METCHOSIN FOUNDATION
2018 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Sunday June 3, 2018 at 7:00 pm

Venue: Metchosin Community House, 4430 Happy Valley Road, Victoria, BC

Present: Carol Carman (Chair), Joel Ussery (Vice Chair and Treasurer), Kem Luther (Secretary), Beverley Hall (Director), Mike Fischer (Director), Jacqueline Clare (Director), Nicole Lalonde (Bookkeeper), Moralea Milne, Christopher Pratt, Morgan Yates, members and other guests.

1. **Welcome and Call to Order by Chair Carol Carman**

2. **Review of activities since the 2017 AGM (summary attached as Appendix A)**

3. **Introduction of Guest Speaker.** Carol Carman introduced Dr. Werner Kurz, who spoke to the AGM on the topic of "Thinking Globally; Acting Locally." He is a Metchosin resident and renowned scientist who has greatly expanded our understanding of forests, carbon cycling, and climate change. Currently he is focusing on understanding the effects of projected climate change and what we can do to both reduce impacts. As a gift of thanks he was presented with a card, a signed copy of Kem Luther's book *Boundary Layer,* and a gift certificate for My-Chosen Cafe.

4. **Refreshment Break**

5. **Business Meeting:**

    - Motion to Approve the Minutes of the 2017 AGM moved by Mike Fischer. Seconded by Kem Luther. Carried.

    - Financial Report. Presented by Joel Ussery. See Appendix B. Since the Financial Report only reflects activity up to the end of 2017, the bookkeeper also prepared a one-page summary of financial activity in the first five months of 2018.

    - Director's Resolutions: Dan MacIsaac served as Returning Officer and submitted an Omnibus Bill nominating the new slate of Directors and Officers. Dan introduced the bill.

    - The Omnibus Bill:

        i. WE, Jacqueline Clare, Michael Fischer, Beverley Hall, Nicole Lalonde, Kem Luther, Christopher Gratrix Pratt, Joel Ussery, and Morgan Yates, 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:

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

    Jacqueline Clare
    Michael Fischer
    Beverley Hall.

iii. The following persons are confirmed as re-elected as Directors of the Society (year 3 of 2nd term) until successors are appointed in accordance with the bylaws:

    Kem Luther
    Joel Ussery

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

    Christopher Gratrix Pratt
    Nicole Lalonde
    Morgan Yates

v. The appointment of an auditor is confirmed as waived for the coming year.

vi. The Members of the Society hereby confirm February 12 (incorp. anniversary date) as the annual reference date for the Society.

vii. The Solicitors for the coming year are confirmed to be MacIsaac and MacIsaac, 2227 Sooke Road, Victoria, B.C.

viii. The annual membership fee for membership in the Society is confirmed to remain set at $10.00.

- Motion to approve Omnibus Bill by Frank Mitchell. Seconded by Garry Fletcher. Carried.

- Carol thanked everyone for being allowed to serve the community in the Metchosin Foundation. Joel thanked Carol for her service.

- Other Business. None.

- Adjournment. Moved by Jacqueline Clare, seconded by Bev Hall. Adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Appendix A: Annual Report from Chair Carol Carman

May 1 2017 – May 1 2018

1. Welcome to guests.

2. For those of you who may note already know, I am Carol Carman, President and Board Chair of the Metchosin Foundation for the past year.

3. Please help me to recognize my remarkable colleague Board members from the past year:

   CRD Resource Planning Manager Joel Ussery,
   Author and naturalist Dr. Kem Luther,
   Royal Roads Research Developer Bev Hall, Jacqueline Clare, and Mike Fischer.
   Conservation Mapping Lead for the BC Environment Ministry and
   Software and Business Development Engineer Mike Fischer

4. Thanks also to our steadfast book-keeper, Nicole Lalonde, as well as to the indispensable Moralea Milne and other regular volunteers and supporters.

5. Healthy Lands, Healthy Waters and a Healthy Caring Community – those are the stated goals of this Foundation for our community of just over 4700 people spread across 71 square kilometers of land.

6. One of our most important roles is to support the establishment of Conservation Covenants. These voluntary legal tools offer landowners of sensitive ecologies a clear format to preserve their land and its life forms for posterity, while retaining ownership and use. In this work, we often partner with agencies such as the Habitat Acquisition Trust (HAT) which has expertise in the area. Paige Magee is presiding over the HAT table this evening. Through programs like Good Neighbours and Green Spot, HAT works with landowners to offer advice about sustainable land use practices including planting native species, reducing pesticide use and reducing water consumption. This knowledge assists landowners to better steward their own properties. HAT's advice is enormously helpful in assessing what lands can retain healthy, native ecologies when being considered for conservation covenants. Currently, HAT is working to better establish a viable nature corridor between Matheson Lake and the Ocean.

7. For the past many months we worked with Scott and Nitya Harris to establish such a covenant on their six acres of ecologically sensitive environment bordering on the Sooke Hills Wilderness Park. This Douglas fir forest acreage holds the headwaters of Bilston Creek, which eventually flows over Sitting Lady Falls into Witty's Lagoon. The land serves as a safe corridor for large carnivores, elk, and other wildlife moving through the area. Together with the Harrises, HAT, and the Cowichan Land Trust, the Metchosin Foundation was proud and delighted to announce this spring the completion of this nature covenant now named Calypso Woods – the name recognizing the exquisite Calypso orchids that emerge there each spring.

8. The Metchosin Foundation welcomes landowners who may be considering this kind of long term protection for their properties but concerned about the legalities and expenses involved. If you are in this position, please do not hesitate to talk to us. We can help.

9. We also take advantage of the vast environmental and biological expertise that exists in Metchosin. The BioBlitz team, for instance, has so far enumerated some 2400 individual species that share this region with us. This ongoing count is certainly a good key measure of a healthy environment.

10. Education continues to be a major focus of our activities. For youth in school, Kem Luther's expertise combined with the great environmental photography of Bev Hall and others, has resulted in the creation of 50-card packs of tough, waterproof Nature Cards. Have a look at these decks while you are here. Each photo is backed by an easy-to-read description that help students learn about common species in our area. These unique sets of Nature Cards have been selling well, not only here in Metchosin, but via Mountain Equipment Co-op to other regions of Southwestern BC. Have a look. They fit easily into any backpack. One more bonus is that, where there have been traditional First Nations uses for these plants, that info is included too on the reverse of the card.

11. Teachers in the early grades at Hans Helgesen and WestMont often take their students out for outdoor hikes. In discussion with them, we were able to equip several classes with foray backpacks containing, among other items, tweezers and jars to aid in their collection and identification of the living world around them. A special Thank You to Danny Buchanan.

12. Graduating high school students have also been a focus of our activities. Thanks to the generous and growing support of donors, we have been able to fund four scholarships scholarships for Metchosin students who are graduating from Grade 12 and who plan on furthering their education. Applications are received in these four areas:

    Academic Excellence
    Environmental Stewardship
    Community Citizenship
    For a Beecher Bay student who excels in any or all of these areas.

    We expect to be able to announce this year's winners in the few coming weeks.

13. On a practical level, and thanks to the excellent carpentry of Ole Frang, we were able to take on two projects to address the growing pressures on populations of bats and of violet-green swallows. Again in partnership with HAT, we produced bat boxes and bird houses. HAT provided information by addressing a Talk 'n Walk session at the District Office last summer to maximize the outreach and success of these projects. Board members, friends and kids gathered together to assemble the bat houses and bird houses. With luck, this spring will bring us a bump in the local population of these two species all over Metchosin.

14. With even more luck, some good photos of these might be displayed this fall as part of the contest and exhibition Metchosin Naturally: Seasons Through the Lens, which the Foundation is pleased to co-sponsor with MACCA.

15. The Foundation's most recent activity stems from a report issued about a year ago by German scientists who had, over 27 years, been measuring a staggering loss of flying insect biomass. Loss of

insect diversity and abundance is likely to provoke cascading negative effects on food webs and ecosystems in general. To be useful, this data needs to be measured to find a baseline and carefully tracked, year over year, for the foreseeable future. Dr. Neville Winchester, Adjunct Associate Professor of UVic's Department of Biology, is heading up a long-term insect monitoring project. He is receiving help from Honors graduate student Kennedy Nikel. Both Metchosin Municipal Council and the Metchosin Foundation are major funders for this project. Moreover, Metchosin is the first municipality in Canada to commit to this project. Traps for flying insects will need to be set up on diverse properties around Metchosin. Neville and Kennedy will be offering an information session and demonstrating these "malaise traps" here at the District Office on June 22. I have to wonder, given 27 years of detailed research by the Germans, what kind of "canary in the coal mine" this insect decline could turn out to be.

16. In conclusion, some of you in this room may remember a trilogy of satiric novels by Douglas Adams that came out in the early 1980s – the first of which was titled *Hitchhikers Guide to the Galaxy*. The last in the series featured space aliens demonstrating their new, highly secret "invisibility technology" by landing their spaceship in London in the middle of Lord's Field in the midst of a high-profile, packed cricket match. Miraculously, no one noticed. The alien technology had made the spaceship look like "somebody else's problem," so of course, no one noticed. In Metchosin we notice. And, we do something about it!

Appendix B: Financial Statement as of Dec 31, 2017

Compiled by Nicole Lalonde, Bookkeeper

Metchosin Foundation AGM June 3rd, 2018

FINANCIAL STATEMENT 31-Dec-17

Income

Bank Interests	**208.10**
Donations	**26860.03**
Fundraising	**3255.00**
Membership	**480.00**
Victoria Foundation Dividend	**1033.00**
	31836.13

Expenses

Bioblitz/Mycoblitz	**275.17**
Fundraising	**4955.94**
Legal	**685.00**
Office Expenses	**424.36**
Outreach/charitable	**793.29**
Scholarships	**2000.00**
	9133.76

Bank Accounts	
Chequing	**38098.51**
Savings	**3574.78**
BioBlitz	**987.27**
Valerie Cochran Memorial Fund	**10197.41**
Scholarships	**2000.13**
	54858.10

Metchosin Foundation Stewardship Fund @ Dec 31/17 39396.58