



**BOWEN ISLAND
COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION**

MINUTES

AGM on April 23, 2014 at 6.30 pm

Tir-na-nOg Theatre School

Present: Kathy Bellringer, Neil Boyd, Joyce Ganong, Soren Hammerberg, Daron Jennings, Julia McCaig, Colleen O'Neill, Andrea Verwey, Kristen Watson

Regrets: Bob Andrew, Kim Stephens

PART ONE:

Annual General Meeting “nuts and bolts” without guests/public

1. Call to order at 6.30 pm and quorum declared – Soren Hammerberg.
2. MOTION to approve the Agenda moved by Soren Hammerberg, seconded by Kathy Bellringer, carried.
3. MOTION to approve Board Meeting Minutes of March 25th, 2014 moved by Soren Hammerberg, seconded by Kathy Bellringer, carried.
4. MOTION to approve the Minutes of the 2013 Annual General Meeting moved by Soren Hammerberg, seconded by Joyce Ganong, carried.
5. MOTION to approve Treasurer’s Report for 2013 moved by Kristen Watson, seconded by Kathy Bellringer, carried.
6. MOTIONS to approve waiving for 2014 the appointments of an auditor and legal counsel moved by Soren Hammerberg and seconded by Andrea Verwey, carried.
7. MOTION to appoint Bob Andrew, Kathy Bellringer, Neil Boyd, Soren Hammerberg, Daron Jennings, Julia McCaig, Colleen O'Neill, Kim Stephens, Andrea Verwey, Kristen Watson as Directors of the Board for 2014 (with Joyce Ganong retiring from the Board but continuing to assist in an ex-officio capacity) moved by Soren Hammerberg, seconded by Joyce Ganong, carried.



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8. MOTION to approve paying \$1,500 from the Maggie Cummings Endowment for the Wheels to Meals Programme made by Andrea Verwey, seconded by Julia McCaig, carried.
9. MOTION to approve paying Hemlock Printers \$1544 for 500 custom presentation folders that will match our business cards in colour and paper stock and be printed with the Foundation logo moved by Julia McCaig and seconded by Daron Jennings, carried.
10. BC Community Foundations Meeting in Penticton on May 22-23, 2014 Soren reported that he will attend the meeting on the Foundation's behalf, at his own cost. The meeting will focus on fundraising. Any other Director wanting to attend at their own cost should register by May 9th.
11. Vital Conversations Community Forum Kathy Bellringer confirmed that the event will take place on May 31st from 9:30 – 12:00 at Cates Hill Chapel. The facilitators' training with Tom James will take place on May 12th at 4:00 pm May 12 at the Municipal Hall [since changed to a 5.00 pm start time – ed.]. The group confirmed that all Directors will attend except Kristen Watson and Kim Stephens.

Next meeting: Tuesday, May 27, 2014 at 7.00 pm at Soren Hammerberg's home.

Adjourned at 6.50 pm.

PART TWO:

Annual General Meeting with the public and invited guests: "Celebrating a Decade of Giving Back to Bowen" at 7pm

1. Musical performance by Lorraine Ashdown and Colleen O'Neil: Lean On Me, A Little Help From My Friends, Put a Little Love in Your Heart
2. Spoken word performance by David Cameron: the Community Foundation anthem written by Shane Koyczan
3. Welcome from Outgoing Chair Joyce Ganong (Appendix 1)
4. Presentation of \$1,500 to Snug Cove House for its Better Meals Program: Graham Ritchie accepted the cheque on their behalf.
5. Report about Bowen Island Gives! by Jennifer Hall and Nicola Murray:
 - BIG! benefitted from the Foundation's administrative support in its fundraising efforts in 2013 that led to the upcoming Me To We Youth Leadership Training.
 - BIG! announced that the funds it raises at its June 2014 will go directly to the Foundation for its Caring Community Fund.



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6. Tributes to Outgoing Chair Joyce Ganong by Soren Hammerberg and Andrea Verwey. Presentation of gift on behalf of the Foundation: a wooden carving by Bowen Island artist Joshua Van Dyke
7. Introduction of the 2014 Board of Directors by Soren Hammerberg.
8. Report by Incoming Chair Soren Hammerberg, The Foundation's Role on Bowen Island, which included information about: (1) 5x5, a significant new grants initiative; and (2) the Vital Conversations community forum taking place on May 31, 2014. (Soren Hammerberg's remarks are attached as Appendix 2)
9. Treasurer's Report by Kristen Watson (attached)
10. Formal meeting adjourned at 8.50pm, with guests invited to stay on for refreshments and live music generously provided by Peter Clarke, Ralph Keefer, and Peter McLean.



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Appendix 1: Welcome remarks by Outgoing Chair Joyce Ganong

A Decade of Giving. Yes, it is true. The Foundation has been distributing grants to community groups since 2004. But let us not forget the years of work that happened before 2004. Visionary members of our community spent several years of endless hours building the structural bones of a community foundation. And then they were intrepid in seeking the first donations to establish the endowments that you will hear about later.

From that early work, the Foundation received its first bequest. A wonderful gift by Maggie Cumming. She loved this island. She loved the freedom here, and the beauty that surrounds us. Her bequest keeps that love alive. We are so pleased to honour her, in turn, by creating this book. It is a reflection of her life, and the gift she gave to all of us. It is truly a story of giving to community. We are so appreciative to Josephine and John Riley, who wrote it, and to Sue Ellen Fast, Will Husby and Cathy Ross (Cumming), Trish McGeer, the Museum & Archives who contributed additional photos, and to Larry and Sylvia Adams of Thumbprint Books who designed it. This is a proof copy. It will be available on our website for you to browse, orders can be placed directly with the publisher on-line, and I'm sure we'll have a few copies available.

One of Maggie's requests was that each year the Foundation provide a grant to the Snug Cove House Society for its programming. Even though the complex is yet to come, the Society has been providing the Better Meals Programs for those needing meal support. It is my pleasure to ask Graham Ritchie and Pernille Neilsen to come forward to receive the 2014 grant.

The astounding truth about our community is the energy and generosity of so many - people who think of ways they want to help our community, and then go about making it happen. In 2013, the Foundation had the honour of partnering with a group of such souls. They call themselves Bowen Island Gives. They are the ones who organize the fabulous hike up Mount Gardner, and in 2013 they chose a very special project to support. To tell you about the project, I'm pleased to introduce two of these incredible people - Nicola Murray and Jennifer Hall.

Over the past 8 years volunteering with the Foundation, I have been deeply privileged to work with some of the finest people I have ever met. To each and every one - especially my colleagues on the Board - thank you for being true to your love of community, and for blessing me with your presence in my life. I shall always be grateful for the fun, laughter, work, frustration and passion for community that we have shared, not to mention a glass of wine and a meal - or two.

Last year we did the unforgivable. Not only did we nab a recent transplant to the island and someone who was about to experience retirement, within a month or so we asked him to consider leading the Foundation into its second decade. He accepted with alacrity, devoting immense amount of time and enthusiasm to learning about community foundations and his emerging role. Together we were Co-Chairs for much of the year, and now, with great lightness of heart and deep appreciation, I ask you to please welcome the Foundation's recently appointed Chair - Soren Hammerberg.



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Appendix 2: Remarks by Incoming Chair Soren Hammerberg

Tribute to Joyce Ganong

As you know, Joyce is stepping down as our Chair and as she passes the torch to me, let me just say how proud we all should be of the work of the Foundation Board over the past decade. The original vision and founding Chair was Bruce Greyell (currently on our Court of Appeal), followed by Murray Atherton (Bowen's Citizen of the Year) and then to Joyce, a magnificent individual. All have a common attribute – a shared passion for Bowen and have worked hard to make our community a better and caring place to live. I respect and hope to build on their legacy. I am enthused about the opportunity to Chair our Foundation and I come with years of experience in areas of philanthropy and business. What has struck me about Joyce is her humanity, her kindness and her decency – I can think of no one better to have as a mentor going forward to embrace those values that she represents and, in doing so, to build the Foundation for the benefit of us all. On behalf of the community, Joyce, thank you so much for your contributions to Island life.

The Foundation's Role on Bowen Island

Our collective responsibility is to oversee and develop programmes that embrace the words of the anthem on your handout – empathy, roots, caring and community.

There are 200 Community Foundations in the country. Vancouver Foundation is the largest with over 50 staff and administering legacies and funds totalling almost a billion dollars. We are one of the smallest Foundations in the country yet hit significantly above our weight. We are volunteer driven yet have the ability to draw on the Vancouver Foundation for their expertise in financial management, programme development and the like.

A community foundation is the living, breathing soul of our community as distinct from politics. We are apolitical and represent a continuum of community spirit and philanthropy. We, as a Foundation, have supported over twenty entities on the Island – from helping to found the Knick Knack Nook, supporting the Bowen Children's Centre, funding specialized equipment for the fire department, funding for the Food Bank, the Arts Council and even the building we are in – Tir-na-nOg. And on and on it goes. We do that through, essentially, two types of funds: (1) endowments, where legacies have been entrusted to the Foundation for our management; and (2) flow through funds where the Board has discretion in determining the beneficiary.

Even though I say we are small compared to the Vancouver Foundation, I am proud to report that in 2013, we raised over \$80,000 on the Island and we grew our total funds under administration from \$650,000 to \$875,000. Our Treasurer's report will shortly highlight our year. The monies raised last year was a higher per capita result than West Vancouver – the wealthiest district in the country. We should be proud that we have such a caring community.



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Through these funds, we have the opportunity to shape, in a positive way, and to complement our Island charities, cultural and social causes – a place where people want to live and raise their families – a place where neighbours care for each other.

We build roots. Endowments entrusted to us create a tremendous responsibility to ensure that these legacies are honoured and nourished.

The work we do is timeless. The benefits are in fact often only appreciated over time. Let me give you two examples.

Maggie Cummings In 2005, an Island resident Maggie Cummings provided an initial legacy of \$200,000 to the Foundation. Through the income generated on her generous gift, and the hard work of one of our committees, the Foundation has partnered with the Municipality to ensure that the trails and pathways on the Island are constructed and maintained in Maggie's vision. We have just overseen the publication of a book about Maggie's life and the cover photograph shows her standing on the wooden walkway in Headwater Park. Her money continues to nurture our community. I doubt many of us were aware that privately endowed funds built that walkway and many other trails and pathways.

Community Chest The second example of timeless work relates to our creation of a Community Chest. We started this fund to help the most needy and vulnerable in our community. My first interaction with the Board's work dealt with such a case. It involved an impecunious Bowen family that was dealing with a child's need for major surgery in the face of many other challenges. They did not have the financial resources to make the transition to Ronald McDonald house. Through another one of our committees, your Foundation assessed and funded that family to make the move in dignity. Since then, half a dozen applications have been received and all have been handled with absolute confidentiality and professionalism.

That to me is an organization worth supporting and I hope you share that view.

Community announcements

I am pleased to make two Community announcements.

5X5 Grants for 2014

As a result of our fundraising, we are now entering our "granting" season.

Over the last two years in direct grants to the Community and to our endowments, your Foundation has contributed \$100,000 to Island causes. Several of our funds provide scholarships and bursaries. Our task is to assess the applicants and, to those selected, to "get the money out the door".



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From our discretionary fund, I am delighted to announce that we will be providing five Community grants of \$5,000 each for a total of \$25,000. These grants will be provided to a wide range of our Community. This is our way to demonstrate that we indeed are “giving back to Bowen”. We are calling this series of grants our 2014 5 x 5 initiative.

Vital Conversations Community Forum

The second announcement relates to how we do grant. A Foundation needs to take the pulse of the Community. Where should these grants be directed, how should they be prioritized?

To assist and to help with those questions, we are hosting a Community Forum which we have called Vital Conversations. It will be held at Cates Hill Chapel on Saturday May 31 from 10:00 to noon. Announcements will be pending. Your Foundation Board will meet with Community leaders in a workshop format that will be professionally facilitated and the pulse of Bowen will be taken. Thus, with Community input, the Foundation will be able to earmark the grants in the 5 x 5 initiative and utilize that information for on-going granting.

Introducing the 2014-2015 Board

I have the distinct pleasure of introducing the Foundation’s Board of Directors for the coming year. We are all volunteers and come from diverse backgrounds.

In getting to know these people well over the past year, what has struck me is that no one has ever asked what we do for a living. The only attributes that matter is whether the individual brings qualities that will enhance the cultural, artistic, environmental and social life on Bowen.

All of these Directors share that passion. I am proud to work with them and I am honoured that they have asked me to Chair their Board.

Let me introduce each member. I invite you to our web site at bowenfoundation.com where more extensive profiles are highlighted. I think you will agree with me that this is a special group of people and, thus, in no particular order [introduces Board members, including Kim Stephens in absentia].

Concluding remarks

In conclusion, let me summarize what your Foundation represents.

1. Ethical stewardship of charitable receipts (keep in mind we provide a tax receipt for any contribution over \$20).
2. We strive for transparency in our conduct. As an example, our financials are posted on our website.
3. Community leadership by development and nurturing of programmes that complement our quality of life.

We do so with quiet dignity, behind the scenes, as an all-volunteer Board.



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Though we do not seek public recognition, we do need to communicate about what we do as we represent the collective conscious of charity on the Island. I cannot end without asking that, if you feel so inclined, consider the Foundation as part of your charity and potential legacy giving. You have my word and that of our Board that we will work hard and responsibly to honour your trust. Thank you very much.