

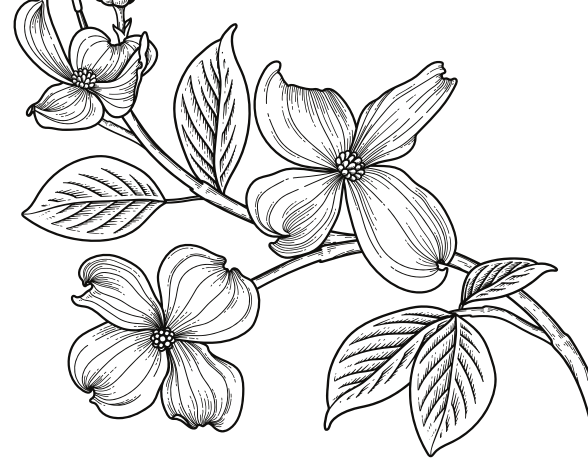
2021

STEWARDSHIP CENTRE FOR BC

# Annual Report

April 1, 2020 – March 31, 2021

# Annual Message



It is a pleasure to provide the annual message from the SCBC BoD, and what a year 2021 has been! Despite the challenges that the pandemic continues to provide, SCBC is fortunate to have the staff that we do; without whom the significant successes in this past year would not have been possible. With strategic level support from the board of directors, the SCBC team of staff continued to pivot with grace in response to the curve balls served by the pandemic, coordinating, facilitating, and executing SCBC's programs and initiatives with aplomb.

More specifically, SCBC has managed and supported the continued expansion of the Green Shores (GS) Program to the Maritimes and to further areas in BC. The GS Program provides a vital framework for local and regional governments to enable and support the sustainable use of shoreline ecosystems through education, planning, and design while recognizing the ecological features and functions of shoreline systems (our ecosystems services). Green Shores includes two sub-programs, Green Shores for Shoreline Development for large projects and Green Shores for Homes for residential properties. The interest in the GS Program continues to grow with further strategic expansion of the program anticipated this coming year and going forward.

SCBC continues to build on the number of resources and guides that provide information, options, and examples of good stewardship practices that address major threats to wildlife and species at risk. Within this program is the Cats and Birds initiative which has been renewed with an additional Okanagan focus. Good news indeed!

The year ahead promises to be one of hopeful optimism, strategic collaboration, and continued investment in SCBC's stewardship leadership with the ongoing support of SCBC's awesome BoD and staff!

**DG Blair**  
*Executive Director*

**Christine Callihoo**  
*Co-chair*

**Phil Osborne**  
*Co-chair*

# Overview



## Our Mission

To strengthen ecological stewardship in BC by providing educational, technical and capacity programs and resources to organizations, governments, the private sector and the general public through collaborative partnerships.

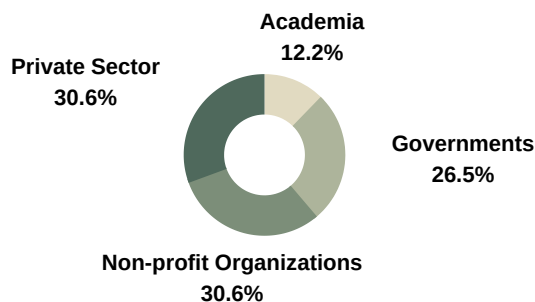
## Our Principles

- Information is credible, knowledge-based, accessible and responsive to the needs of stewards in BC.
- Programs are partner-based, inclusive and non-partisan.
- Initiatives respect the interests and rights of all participants.
- Operations are conducted in an effective, efficient and accountable manner

## Our Programs

- Green Shores
- Wildlife and Species at Risk
  - Cats and Birds
- Strengthening Stewardship

## Our Network



## Our Community

We love connecting with our stewardship community. Each year, we offer free opportunities for our members to learn about our projects, access our science-based resources, engage with us online and join us at our outreach events.

In 2020 and 2021, we have engaged with over **1,000 people** through webinars, presentations, seminars and other educational sessions hosted by the Stewardship Centre.

Our membership list is growing, and we are thrilled to have an increased online following of stewards who support our work and use our resources to make positive changes in their communities, providing better solutions for the environments, wildlife and natural ecosystems.

# Green Shores



## New Chapter in Maritimes

The Stewardship Centre and the TransCoastal Adaptations Centre at Saint Mary's University are working to launch [a new chapter in Nova Scotia](#) to expand Green Shores in the Canadian Maritimes. This chapter will offer training, project certification and opportunities for local governments to adopt GS nature-based solutions in shoreline management along the Atlantic coasts.



Photo: TransCoastal Adaptations team

## New Project

### Resilient Coasts for Salmon: Nature-based Solutions for Climate Change

The Stewardship Centre for BC and the Salmon Pacific Foundation have secured **5-year funding** from the Climate Action and Awareness Fund (CAAF) for a new project titled [Resilient Coasts for Salmon \(RC4S\)](#): Nature-based Solutions for Climate Change, starting in April 2021. The goal of the project is to raise awareness about the Green Shores program, to educate the public on nature-based solutions in shoreline management and how to take action to restore habitat for native plants and animals. The project team will work with communities, stewardship groups, and coastal First Nations along the southern and eastern coasts of Vancouver Island to deliver this project. RC4S team will build demonstration sites to show real-life examples of Green Shores application and benefits and offer free training in the Green Shores to environmental professionals and the general public.

# Green Shores



## Local Government Working group

Local government members of the LGWG continue to work together to integrate GS in policy and practices and engage communities in GS events and workshops.

6

active members

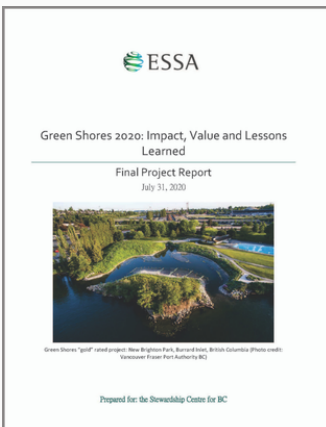
## Training

GS has continued to offer Level 1 and Level 2 training online and in-person and successfully piloted a new Level 3 course for Green Shores Approved Professionals.

190+

individuals trained

## New Resources



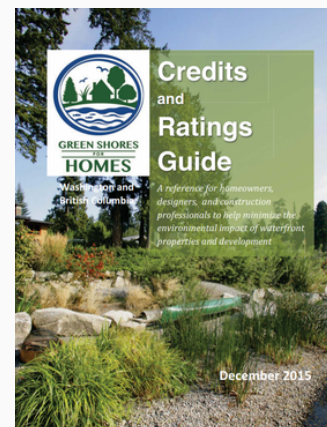
### Green Shores 2020: Impact, Value and Lesson learned

A 2-year long extensive socio-economic and environmental impact assessment of Green Shores by ESSA Technologies Ltd.



### Green Shores for Coastal Development Guide - Updated

GSCD was updated into Green Shores for Shoreline Development guide to include lakeshore and marine shorelines.



### Green Shores for Homes Guide Update 2023

Working with Maritime, British Columbia and Washington State partners, we began an update of the GSH guide to offer nature-based adaptation solutions on Pacific and Atlantic shorelines.

# Cats and Birds



## About

The important work of our [Cats and Birds](#) team has continued to increase public awareness about cat welfare and the impact of outdoor cats on wildlife, natural ecosystems and local communities.

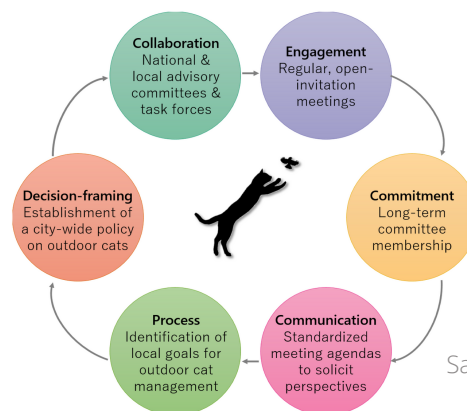
As part of our collaborative outreach, we have added new web pages, engaged with the public via online events, conducted Vancouver-based research, and continued collaboration with our partners.

## Vet Outreach

Our ongoing effort in veterinary educations helped us reach **560+** students and faculty in Canadian veterinary colleges, veterinary technology programs and continued education sessions for veterinary professionals. Since then, **four out of five veterinary colleges in Canada have incorporated the Cats and Birds content in their curriculum**, providing information on the important role of veterinary professionals in animal welfare and conservation.

## Collaborative Partnership

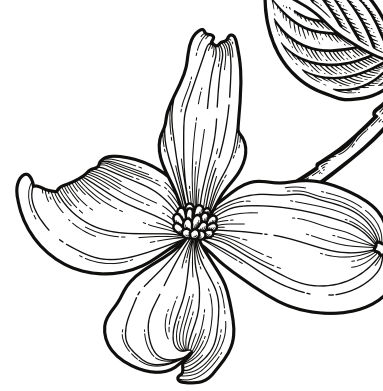
The Cats and Birds team works together with partners from animal welfare, conservation, government and academia as part of the Vancouver Bird Advisory Committee and its Cats and Birds Subcommittee. Together, we are working with our partners to develop a Statement of Collaboration that will guide current and future work on addressing the impact of free-roaming cats on natural ecosystems.



Graphic from Saunders et al., 2021

**Our successful collaboration with Cats and Birds partners was featured in a paper on translational ecology, an innovative approach to solving complex sociological, ecological and political aspects of an environmental problem, such as roaming cats.**  
[Saunders et al., 2021](#)

# Cats and Birds



## Vancouver-based Research

Starting in 2020, Stewardship Centre for BC initiated two [research projects](#) in the Greater Vancouver area to collect on-the-ground information about outdoor cats and birds in the city:

- **Vancouver Cat Count, and**
- **Greater Vancouver Urban Landbird Count**

We installed trail cameras across Vancouver residential, industrial, commercial and parkland areas and collected images of outdoor cats during the summer and winter seasons.

At the same time, to access urban bird populations, point counts were conducted along the transects and all birds seen or heard were counted throughout the year, accounting for seasonal variation in bird diversity, abundance and activity.

The results of this research are anticipated to be ready in 2022. Methodology, lessons learned and outcomes of this research will be used to inform management plans for keeping cats and birds safe and to guide future research in the Okanagan Valley.

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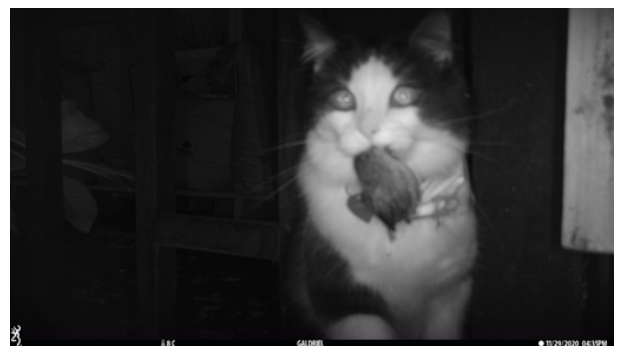
Locations sampled with trail cameras

812,000+

Images identified

6,800+

Outdoor cats images



Photos from Vancouver Cat Count trail cameras.

570

Point bird counts completed

312

Transects surveyed

# Funders

Thank you to all of our funders, in-kind partners, and contracts for supporting our programming in 2020 and 2021.



Environment and  
Climate Change Canada  
Environnement et  
Changement climatique Canada



Natural Resources  
Canada  
Ressources naturelles  
Canada



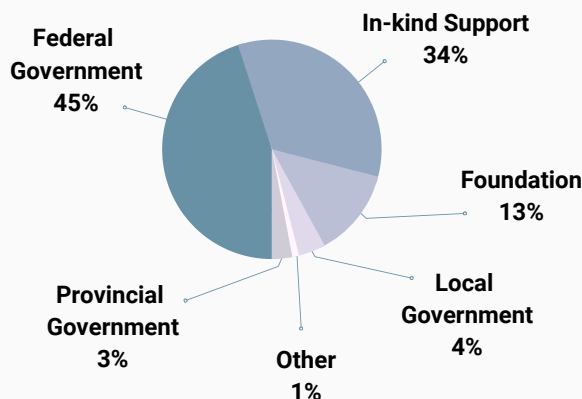
# In-kind Partners

Archipelago Marine Research / Baker Creek Enhancement Society / BC Ministry of Environment / BC Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development / Birds Canada / Bowen Island Municipality / British Columbia Institute of Technology / Capital Regional District / CBCL Inc. / Christine Callihoo Consulting / City of Port Moody / City of Seattle / City of Surrey / Coastal Action / Coastal & Ocean Resources / Coastal Geologic Inc. / Comox Valley Regional District / Ecology Action Centre / Environment and Climate Change Canada / ESSA Technologies Ltd / Erik Lees Associates / Fisheries and Oceans Canada / FLAP Canada / Fraser Basin Council / Give Green Canada / Gretchen Harlow / Joan Chess / Lanarc / Mersey Tobeatic Research Institute / Murdoch de Greeff Associates / Nature Canada / Haile Tolera / Natural Resources Canada / Northwest Hydraulics Inc. / Golder Inc. / Regional District of Nanaimo / Saint Mary's University / Sean Sharpe Consulting / Simon Fraser University / South Coast Conservation Program / Thompson Rivers University / Town of Qualicum Beach / TransCoastal Adaptations Centre for Nature Based Solutions / University of British Columbia / University of Victoria / Washington Sea Grant / West Coast Environmental Law/ Peninsula Stream Society / Project Watershed

## Financial Summary

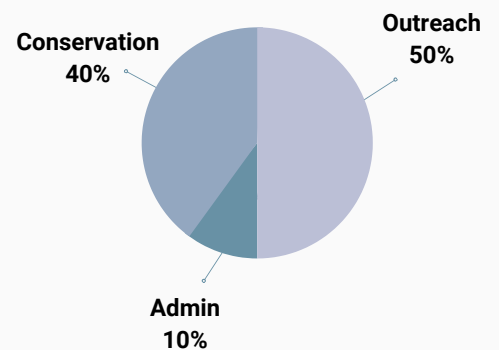
### Revenue

TOTAL: \$559,955



### Expenses

TOTAL: \$558,769





We thank you for your ongoing support of our work and the work of stewardship organizations across BC!

Questions or comments about this report? Want to touch base about partnerships or becoming a part of our community? Connect with us through our email, website, or by clicking the buttons below.

[stewardshipcentrebc.ca](http://stewardshipcentrebc.ca)

[info@stewardshipcentre.bc.ca](mailto:info@stewardshipcentre.bc.ca)



**STEWARDSHIP CENTRE**  
FOR BRITISH COLUMBIA



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