



Scout Island Nature Centre 2013 Annual Report

*Black is a hole in your life
Or a quiet place on earth
Black tastes like liquorice or a peppercorn
It is a shadow looming around in an alley
It feels soft or scratchy
When I think of black, I think of storming thunderclouds
Madi Riplinger*

For more information you can reach
Fred McMechan, President Williams Lake Field Naturalists
Sue Hemphill, Environmental Educator Scout Island Nature Centre
Jenny Noble, Scout Island Nature Centre Coordinator
At the Nature House 398 8532
1305A Borland Road
Williams Lake BC V2G5K5
www.scoutislandnaturecentre.ca

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People with a strong sense of connection to nature report more happiness than those who are less connected. A high degree of nature relatedness is also associated with more environmentally protective behavior; if someone feels connected with their natural environment they are more likely to protect it. Environmental education and opportunities for nature contact are important for cultivating (or improving) connectedness. Regular time in nature is good for our physical and mental health, as well as for the planet. And as we learn more about our local ecosystems, we gain a better understanding of our interconnectedness with nature and the importance of keeping our environment healthy.

Dr. Elizabeth Nisbet, Psychology Department at Trent University

Year in Review and Partnerships

The Scout Island Nature Centre goals are to:

- offer nature education and interpretation to all ages
- conserve the Nature Centre's wildlife habitat, vegetation and other natural values
- provide a natural place for viewing wildlife and plants, facilitated by a system of walking trails
- be a community gathering place for natural history programs, conservation discussions, natural history research, and ideas and actions for ecological sustainability

Naturalists, it seems to me, are endlessly interested in the world, always attentive to it with a passion rooted in and growing with personal experience. Naturalists look at nature and see people more clearly, look at people and see nature everywhere. They can read history and future in a landscape and discover the presence of our lively Earth in every human affair. For them, a stroll in the green outdoors often is a venture into their soul.

Robert. B. Weeden. –Country of Heart, Eye and Hand

Scout Island Nature Centre programs are for all those who are born naturalists or are in the process of becoming naturalists. Our partners' and supporters' donations of time and funding make possible the diversity of programs the Nature Centre offers. The diversity includes; art in nature, hiking, discussion groups, presentations, a nature house to explore and use as a community gathering place, walking trails, advice and material sharing with teachers and other leaders, answering the many questions related to nature posed by email, facebook, phone and in person.

In 2013, Scout Island Nature Centre offered year-round programs for both school classes and community groups. A continued partnership with **Fisheries and Oceans Canada** involved thirteen classes in the Stream to Sea program and 34 high school students in the 2013 Salmon Trip.

Province of British Columbia Gaming Program provided partial funding for educators and summer staff. The **City of Williams Lake** provided funding to help maintain staff levels for all of our programs and ensure that the Nature House could be open year round for the community. The **City of Williams Lake** also provided in-kind support through maintenance of the Nature House (hydro, heating, phone). It is a great partnership –Williams Lake Field Naturalists, Nature Trust of BC and The City of Williams Lake. **The City and the Cariboo Regional District** together provided a Fee for Service for the Scout Island Trail System. Summer staff salaries **were paid in part by School District 27 and Service Centre Canada (Summer Job Program), and Province of BC Gaming Program.** The remainder was covered by local fund raising and a special thank-you to **Kiwanis Club of Williams Lake** for their generous support for several of our programs.

It is our partnership with **community (especially the Williams Lake Field Naturalists)** that continues to ensure that the Nature Centre is healthy for all the life that loves it.



School Programs

Spring School Programs -- Grades K-7

This year we were lucky enough to have four teacher naturalists teaching programs and working around the Nature Centre. Caitlin Langford and Laura Ulrich returned for their second year as a summer staff. We had two new summer staff join us Patrick Newsome and Paula Laita. As usual, members of the Field Naturalists generously donated their time to help our staff become “experts” so that they could develop and lead programs related to birds, plants, invertebrates (salt and fresh water), and ecosystems. Staff continued to use a Coyote Mentoring style of teaching by asking questions for students to answer, and encouraging their interest in and discovery of nature. Even programs at schools included outdoor walks, observations and games. Games are the most loved activity for all ages. They are the most successful route to engaging people in nature. You never know what you will touch, smell, or see while hiding from the Eagle. Can you be still even if a spider is walking on you, because if you move the Eagle will see you.

In May and June, 99 classes were taught at Scout Island Nature Centre or at their schools. They involved grades K-11 from both public and private schools. Staff also assisted with the classes taking part in the Water Wise Program (Cariboo Chilcotin Conservation Society) in the River Valley. Two of the most rewarding aspects of supervising these young people is watching them grow in confidence and skill while mentoring students as they explore, and watching the pleasure they get from their students learning about and enjoying nature.

Year-Round School Programs K-12

There were five Nature Educators (Sue, Mary, Julianne, Pam and Paula) working from September through June offering school programs. We encouraged teachers to spend the whole day and many did. They came in all kinds of weather and snow and the possibility of tracks was a big draw. The most asked for adventure is a trip to “Hare Island” to play Hare and Fox. We always include outdoor exploration along with indoor talks and many times writing. This year, Mary became an expert on spiders and helped 16 classes explore spiders indoors and out at their schools. Classes (grades K-11) took part in 65 programs at SINC, at their schools and in the River Valley during early spring, fall and winter.

The programs offered this year again included:

- Ecosystem comparison—rivers (instream and riparian edge), marshes, wet forest, dry forest grasslands, with additional topics like food webs depending on teacher request
- Winter landscapes (tracks, identifying plants in winter, adaptations)
- Owls
- Spiders
- Bone Detective
- Finding Your Way (orienteering)

Kim Zalay, a Grade 7 teacher, and 22 of her students decided they needed to see Scout Island by moon light, so they came for an overnight adventure. Some slept in tents and some in the Nature House—all got up close and personal with the resident beavers. More students joined us the next day. They morphed into a variety of animals and learned and imagined how each adapted to fall and winter (and how they knew it was time to adapt).

Stream to Sea Programs

The Salmonids in the Classroom Program is offered in partnership with **Fisheries and Oceans Canada** (DFO). Chinook eggs were delivered to 11 schools in early November 2012 (and 10 schools in November 2013) with a 2 hour presentation on the background history of their salmon eggs, habitat needs of egg and alevin stages and the life history of Chinook. When fry were up and feeding, Sue returned to the elementary schools to teach about watershed health and to the high school classes to help students dissect salmon. Late May and early June, all the classes came to Scout Island to release their fry and take part in invertebrate dipping, exploring the riparian edge they have been hearing about all year and diving into the salt water tank.



Dissecting a salmon as part of the Stream to Sea program

Salmon Trip 2013

We had a great Salmon Trip--Good weather, long days of learning, exploring and being surprised, great people of all ages and good food. This program is done in partnership with DFO, Quesnel River Research Centre (QRRC), SD 27 and Gavin Lake Camp. The **Kiwanis Club of Williams Lake** and **Lake City Secondary PAC** provided the cash funding needed for this trip. A Mitchel Odyssey Grant received by the school allowed 12 grade 7-9 (Greenologists) students to join for one day and night of the trip.

It wasn't just about Salmon. Students stopped to smell the forest as part of an ecosystem discussion. It really did smell great. This was part of the first day's activities--canoeing and looking at the riparian edge, walking ½ of the new trail at Gavin Lake, identifying aquatic invertebrates, finding loads of fungi.... The Greenologists got to watch the older students pull in the nets of salmon to try and collect gametes on Thursday. We had no luck finding "ripe" males and females even after several tries, so 3 students went back out with Guy Scharf (DFO) the following Monday and worked all day until there were enough gametes for the Stream to Sea Program. Thursday evening, Williams Lake Band elder, Velvet Tenale, astounded the students with her skill at preparing fish for the fire and then they all roasted fish on a stick (much better than hot dogs). The last day at the QRRC research centre, students spent helping researchers and learned how to assess how well birds communicate over urban noise, how to observe behaviors of the red and white Chinook, and how to measure the nutrients deposited in stream beds by salmon returning from the ocean. Check out the website for more information about the 2013 trip.



Smelling the forest floor is another way to learn about and appreciate this ecosystem.

Environmental Education in the Schools

We continue to work directly with teachers and schools to help them include environmental education in their programs. Several teachers applied for Conservation Education Assistance Fund (CEAF) grants to help provide meaningful outdoor experiences. The help with bussing costs was especially important. This meant we could bring more classes to Scout Island as well as explore some other trails in the area (Bull Mountain for example) We took part in several meetings with school district administration and led a Pro D workshop in September to develop systems that encourage and enable teachers to do outdoor education. We are also part of the school district's "Out Door Education Learning Specialists Association" started by Frances McCoubrey. We are focusing on developing outdoor ideas that teachers can use within walking distance of their classrooms—Nature is nearby!

Community Programs

Discovery Pre School

Spring 2013, Margret Onnekin and Barb Langford again taught preschool classes. In fall, 2013, there were two morning and two afternoon classes led by Margret. So many children have enjoyed their first "school" days at Scout Island and some are even returning with their own children. This program truly has provided young children with creative, physical, social, emotional and intellectual experiences within a safe, nurturing atmosphere. There is opportunity in all seasons to explore the outdoors and develop an empathy with nature.

Nature Programs for Children

Nature Fun and Summer Camp

What a busy, wonderful summer we had. The four summer staff (Paula, Caitlin, Patrick, and Laura—with help from Georgia and Geneva) were busy every day with the Nature Fun program (410 children took part). The full day program for older children (8-13) on Wednesdays was very popular because of the art activities it included. The staff was very creative with this and included, pinning insects on painted backgrounds, casting footprints, and even dance. There was a three day Explorer Camp (9 children took part) that included an overnight at Sue and Jurgen's near Horsefly. It was perfect weather so that we could play in the river below Moffat Falls, pick and eat Saskatoons and raspberries until we burst, and catch sight of the bats (but not the beavers). Four of the girls slept in the tree house and the rest in tents.



Playing at Moffat Falls as part of Explorer Camp

Spring Break Program

The **Spring Break** program has become very popular. Julianne and Sue played with 15 children the first week, but there were 10 more that wanted to come. So Mary and Geneva played with 10 more the second week. All of the children chose a mammal to be for the week and learned through their mammal's eyes, ears, and noses. They learned how to hide and hunt like their mammal, how important plants are to each animal, and how nice spring was to their animal. Then when they turned back into people, they wrote about their animal, drew pictures of their animal and its habitat, and "built" centerpieces with the plants they had been sniffing and looking at. As usual, the games were the favorites of each day and were repeated often. "Wildlife are Watching" really worked well along the late winter trails, but the new game "Predator in the Dark" turned out to be the favorite this time.



Can you see the wildlife watching?

Fall Break Program--Nature Writing –Fun for All

Did you say I have to write during my week off of school? No Way! That is how some children might respond if you suggested such a thing to them, but not the children that joined Paula Laita and Anne White during the fall break. The days were full of games and challenges indoors and out. At the end, they suggested that the time for writing needed to be longer. Here is an example of the writing.

Bear Dream

When a bear dreams
he dreams of honey and creams,
syrup, berries, and clouds,
big fluffy clouds
he dreams he's floating
in the air, when the sun is shining,
but when he has a nightmare he can really scare
himself, because he dreams of being shot
falling into a witches pot
falling off a cliff
having a terrible sniff...
Thank goodness its just a dream.

Ivy McKay

Art in Nature, Nature in Art

This is the second year that we have “deliberately” included focused art activities in our nature programs. This was made possible because of a grant from the **Central Cariboo Arts and Culture Society**. We involved mentors with specific art skills and designed the nature programs to enhance the art activity. Nature experienced in many different ways (games, outdoor exploration, using all of the senses, and presentation of information) was used to facilitate artistic expression (dance, visual arts, writing). We integrated art into many of our programs including:

- The Spring Break Program included writing activities that lead to a story or poem and making centerpieces with live plants
- Nature Fun had art activities every Wednesday (see above).
- Summer Camp participants built individual dioramas that represented how each of the mammals they had practiced being lived in the habitats of Scout Island
- Mike Doherty taught a group of children and adults at Arts on the Fly in Horsefly the art of *Sumi painting* and then led them to the river for inspiration as they painted.
- Fall Break program-described earlier

Success by Six

We continued to provide a program for pre schools and kindergarten classes with the last of the funding from **Kiwanis** through Success by Six. Julianne, Mary, and Paula led classes in ½ to full day programs at Scout Island and at their schools. We want the children to use all of their senses, and we stimulate them to think about what’s happening around them by asking questions exploring and playing. Just as important, we want to encourage the teachers to take their students into nearby nature on a regular basis.

Year-Round Family Programs

Family Events

The Williams Lake Young Naturalists' Club has had another year of exploration and discovery. From September to April Julianne and Mary host monthly family days which are open to everyone (accompanied by an adult) at Scout Island Nature Centre (attendance on average 30 people). Family events in 2013 included an evening of astronomy lead by Lynn and Steve Capling, Backyard Bird Count, lots of dirt on Earth Day-- everyone planted trees and then went on an archeological dig with Beth Bedard from Thomson River University and even spider hunting before the spiders hibernated for winter. For the summer months monthly “special” activities are planned exclusively for the Young Naturalist’s Club members organized by Julianne. The first YNC exclusive trip was to Gold Trail recycling where the children got an idea of just how much garbage people produce, and learned what can be recycled there. The next project was planting trees around the osprey nest to restore the area to a more natural state. The project was paid for with an YNC stewardship grant. The discovery day at Farwell Canyon was truly that. We saw the pictographs, used our imaginations to create stories about the landforms beside the river, and watched in awe as the wind made the sand dune in the distance come alive. These activities give families a chance to learn about and appreciate nature from different points of view.

By the time the YNC members are 60, the trees will be large enough for osprey babies to land in.



Healthy by Nature

This is the third year of our Healthy by Nature initiative. We are working with the City of Williams Lake and others to help people relate their own health (mental and physical) to maintaining a healthy environment and what to do about it as well as taking time to go out and spend time in nature. The goal is to integrate Healthy by Nature ideas into community health plans. As well, our Family activities including the very popular Green Holidays celebrated this year at the Art Centre entice people out into Nature for their Vitamin N.

We believe that having "softly fascinating" stimulation to look at (such as trees, leaves and water), while not having to concentrate heavily allows a person to de-focus and self-reflect in a natural environment. Sitting in a dark room isn't restorative because it's boring, which is fatiguing even though it doesn't require heavy concentration. Watching television isn't restorative either, because the stimulation is harsh and requires concentration. Other environments, such as museums, could be restorative as well, but we find that the natural environment is one of the most effective at restoring cognitive abilities. Research Institute in Toronto--Dr. Marc Berman

Nature Interpretation for Community and Tourists

This year, 3016 visitors used the Nature House from around the world and many more used the trails from dawn to dusk. Many visitors were from close to home and British Columbia as usual, but some came from Scotland, Kuwait and even Nunavut.

Many people who visited wrote in our Visitors' Book. Here are some of the comments from 2013:

*First time—I like it!
So much is new
How wonderful to have this
Great Nature Centre helpful staff
The birding is awesome. I saw a golden bird.*

The public presentations at the Nature House each month on a wide variety of natural history topics were well attended. There were mushroom workshops, talks about sea turtles in Uruguay, birds in Spain and Midway, and Chickadees trying to sing above the noise in urban environments. We all were interested in the talk on Mountain Pine Beetle, Climate Change and Bioenergy because it was given by Wyatt Klopp. You may remember he was one of our summer staff in 2008 and 2009. Girl Guides, Brownies, and other community groups came for programs. As usual, a number of groups used the Nature House as a meeting place including the Lions Club, Potatoe House, and Quesnel River Research Centre.

Greenologists at Work



Messy but fun—suet feeders at Green Holiday Event



Taking Care of the Nature Centre Inside and Out

Inside the Nature House, our focus for the year was the Energy Upgrade. By fall, we knew we had enough funding to go ahead with a new furnace and this coincided well with BC Hydro's wish to put electrical service underground. The new furnace was running by October. It is an efficient electric furnace with a heat pump. The electric lines were buried and the old oil tank was removed. We were really pleased with the wonderful, careful job done by all that were involved. The City of Williams Lake and BC Hydro made sure that as little damage as possible was done to the vegetation. There is a "naked" area along the causeway, but it is already seeded with native grasses and herbs and in a year that "scar" won't show. It was amazing to watch the machines work on the east side of the nature house. They dug the hole, moved all the dirt, removed the oil tank, and laid the new electric lines without damaging the larch. Funding for this huge project came from local business, the City of Williams Lake, the W. Garfield Weston Foundation, and local donors. The final part of the upgrade, the insulation, will be done spring 2014.



The two youngest donors to the furnace project. Ali and Matteo Calebrese who donated their birthday money

We were busy outside also. There was the usual upkeep of the trails, weeds to control, boardwalks to fix and a roof to replace on the block house. But much of our efforts focused on a new trail and restoration of habitat on the north edge of Scout Island Marsh. The trail allows people to walk west from the Nature Centre (causeway area) to an area above the marsh with some of the best views of water fowl (especially in spring). The first ½ of the trail (.4 km) is located in the low lying riparian edge and was completed mid summer 2013 with the help of the Williams Lake Indian Band (part of the trail is on Nature Centre Land and part on WL Band land) and a lot of help from volunteers. The trail will extend up the hill and make a loop behind Kal Tire in the summer of 2014.

The second main effort was the restoration of the upland areas on the north marsh behind Kal Tire and just east of the causeway. Kal Tire has been a good partner on this project by allowing us to connect to water for irrigation at their building. The City contributed a day of back hoe work digging trenches and holes for trees. A grade 5 class, the Girl Guides, and volunteers from the Ministry of Transport helped plant trees in the spring. The Greenologists planted more trees in the fall. Williams Lake Field Naturalists put up deer fencing, set up irrigation lines, kept weeds under control and ensured the trees were watered all summer. This was a huge community effort that will benefit people and the wildlife that use this area.

Looking Forward

What is Planned for 2014?

The work on the north marsh continues. As mentioned above the last part of the trail will be built. More trees will be planted as well as caring for the trees planted there. An information kiosk in partnership with the Williams Lake Indian Band is also on the drawing table

BC Hydro will be taking down all overhead power lines that are no longer needed—no more birds will be killed by power lines and all will be free to fly kites

We will have three full time summer staff again and continue having additional 1-2 high school students. We welcomed Paula Laita on as a year round nature educator in September 2013, and she will continue sharing the fun of teaching classes along with Mary and Sue. We hope to extend our Art in Nature and Nature in Art programs so that there are some just for adults. As well, the Healthy by Nature movement will continue.

Some final thoughts

Why do all of work hard to make Scout Island Nature Centre a place of joy and discovery? Is it because we *know* that being in nature is essential to human health, and we need to *be* in nature to grasp the insights and deep mystery of it?

Trying to grasp a transrational experience, or any act of love via reason alone is like trying to play guitar with one's butt." (David James Duncan's thoughts)

More quotes from Dr. Elizabeth Nesbit

There seems to be a potential "happy path" to sustainability: the positive feelings we experience when in nature keep us coming back, motivated to protect the places we enjoy.

Rather than surfing the Internet, checking email, or watching TV at the end of a long day, so the take-home message is get out in nature to find happiness.

The key is to make it convenient and easy. Most of us lead very busy lives and struggle to find time to relax. We need to find ways to incorporate nature time into our regular routines, so that it becomes habit, just like any other health-promoting behaviour.

And Scout Island Nature Centre is a convenient place to find that fix of happiness

The People That Make Scout Island Nature Centre Work

Williams Lake Field Naturalists

The Directors and members of the Williams Lake Field Naturalists have met the challenge of managing Scout Island Nature Centre since 1978. Through their volunteer efforts, programs and materials are developed, staff hired and trained, funds raised, trails repaired, weeds pulled, boardwalks built, bird boxes installed, grassland garden maintained, and much more.

Directors

Fred McMechan -- President
Jim Sims -- Vice President
Katharine VanSpall -- Treasurer
Ordell Steen -- Secretary
Ray Hornby --director
Peter Opi--director
Nola Daintith -- Director
Cathy Koot -- Director
Rob Higgins -- Director

Scout Island Nature Centre Staff

Nature Educators:

Sue Hemphill
Mary Forbes
Julianne Trelenberg
Paula Laita
Pam Mc Guinness

Coordinator: Jenny Noble

Discovery Pre School Teachers: Margret Onneken

Summer Staff in 2014 included:

Teacher Naturalists: Laura Ulrich, Caitlyn Langford, Patrick Newsome, Paula Laita, and in training Geneva Gordon

Nancy Eastman continues to be our long-standing cleaner. Denise Deschene is the caretaker. Pete Goettler And Georgia Bock helped all year with maintenance, planting and caring for the trails and natural habitat.

The Roots of Our Success

Volunteers continue to be the heart of the Nature Centre. Members of the Williams Lake Field Naturalists are our main contributors of time and energy. They helped build the new trail and do the restoration work on the North Marsh, put a new roof on the block house, pulled the never-ending weeds, planted trees, helped with fundraising, trained staff, checked bird boxes, organized files, wrote stories, led workshops, cleaned tanks and fed fish, and the list goes on. Anna Roberts continues to guide us and care for the beautiful displays in the Nature House.

Volunteer support, material donations, and financial backing make the Nature Centre the lively community centre that it is. Staff and visitors to the Nature Centre are thankful to the volunteers who contributed hours (that Sue knows about) valued at \$109 175 to the Nature Centre in 2013.

2013 Scout Island Nature Centre Partners

- Cariboo Regional District and City of Williams Lake- Central Cariboo Recreation and Leisure Services Function
- Cariboo Foundation-Jean Waite
- City of Williams Lake –General Funding
- Fisheries and Oceans Canada
- Kiwanis Club of Williams Lake
- Service Centre Canada (Summer Job Program)
- School District 27
- Williams Lake Field Naturalists

2013 Scout Island Nature Centre Supporters

- BC Nature (Federation Of British Columbia Naturalists)
- Cariboo Foundation-Anonymous donor
- Cariboo Regional District and City of Williams Lake, through the Central Cariboo Arts & Culture Society
- Ducks Unlimited Canada
- Lake City Secondary PAC
- Kal Tire
- Pacific Salmon Foundation
- Rotary Club –Daybreak
- The Nature Trust of British Columbia
- UBC Alex Fraser Research Forest
- United Way-Success by Six
- Williams Lake and District Credit Union
- Williams Lake Indian Band
- Williams Lake Lions Club
- Williams Lake Lioness Club

And the many other individual community members and businesses who donated their time, funding, and ideas

Scout Island Nature Centre could not continue to offer the natural history programs, the tonic of wilderness to our community or the protected space for wildlife in our urban setting without their support.

For year ended December 31 2013

**Williams Lake Field Naturalists
Statement of Revenue and Expenditures for
Scout Island Nature Centre**

	<i>SINC Chequing Acct.</i>	<i>SINC Savings Acct.</i>	<i>Gaming Acct.</i>	<i>Total</i>
REVENUE				
Pre-school				
Fees	\$36,615.00			\$36,615.00
Subsidy	\$6,033.03			\$6,033.03
School and Community Programs				
Gaming Grant ¹				\$0.00
Other Grants				
SD #27 Annual Grant (Summer Staff) ¹	\$6,000.00			\$6,000.00
Federal Summer Student Grant ¹	\$17,220.00			\$17,220.00
Fisheries & Oceans Canada ¹	\$10,000.00			\$10,000.00
City of Williams Lake Operating Grant (in part) ¹	\$10,500.00			\$10,500.00
Central Cariboo Arts & Culture Society - Art in Nature/Nature in Art Program ¹	\$1,700.00			\$1,700.00
Cariboo Foundation - Anonymous donor ¹	\$4,000.00			\$4,000.00
Program Fees	\$9,191.39			\$9,191.39
Nature Center Maintenance & Improvements				
Donations for Nature House Energy Upgrade from local businesses ¹	\$4,550.00			\$4,550.00
Trails, Signage and Habitat Restoration				
City of WL & Cariboo Regional District - Trail System ¹	\$12,500.00			\$12,500.00
General				
The Nature Trust of BC	\$1,000.00			\$1,000.00
Sales & Fundraising				
Sales (books, t-shirts, bug viewers, etc.)	\$1,439.86			\$1,439.86
Banquet - Ticket Sales	\$3,910.00			\$3,910.00
Fundraising (chocolate, nuts & honey sales)	\$3,788.10			\$3,788.10
Nursery Sales	\$2,376.00			\$2,376.00
General - for use in any of the above programs				
City of Williams Lake Operating Grant (in part)	\$2,000.00			\$2,000.00
Cariboo Foundation - Jean Waite	\$4,164.31			\$4,164.31
Donations (Individuals)	\$8,390.38			\$8,390.38
Donations (Organizations & Businesses)	\$336.33			\$336.33
GST Rebate	\$1,588.76			\$1,588.76
Investment Income		\$633.30		\$633.30
Transfers from other accounts to cover overdraft & service charges			\$550.00	\$550.00
TOTAL REVENUE	\$147,303.16	\$633.30	\$550.00	\$148,486.46

¹ externally restricted funds

Scout Island Nature Centre

	<i>SINC</i> <i>Chequing</i> <i>Acct.</i>	<i>SINC</i> <i>Savings</i> <i>Acct.</i>	<i>Gaming</i> <i>Acct.</i>	<i>Total</i>
<i>EXPENDITURES</i>				
Pre-school				
Wages and Benefits	\$34,240.71			\$34,240.71
Supplies & Misc. Expenses	\$2,203.55			\$2,203.55
Staff professional development	\$180.00			\$180.00
Cleaning	\$2,005.31			\$2,005.31
School and Community Programs				
Wages and Benefits	\$35,799.86		\$6,607.74	\$42,407.60
Nature Educators (Contractors)	\$28,138.77		\$5,600.00	\$33,738.77
Salmon Trip	\$2,762.36			\$2,762.36
Mileage	\$408.00			\$408.00
Bussing	\$433.95			\$433.95
Miscellaneous	\$360.93			\$360.93
Nature Centre Maintenance & Improvements				
Library (books & magazines)	\$102.54			\$102.54
Nature House Displays & Equipment	\$2,113.62			\$2,113.62
Trails, Signage and Habitat Restoration	\$12,998.88		\$4,935.31	\$17,934.19
Nature House Energy Upgrade Project	\$15,487.51			\$15,487.51
Sales & Fundraising				
Sales inventory (books, t-shirts, etc.)	\$1,160.62			\$1,160.62
Banquet Expenses	\$2,012.75			\$2,012.75
Fundraising (chocolate & honey sales)	\$2,705.74			\$2,705.74
General - support of any of the above programs				
Coordinator	\$2,000.00		\$3,000.00	\$5,000.00
Office Supplies & Expenses	\$801.71			\$801.71
Website Development	\$281.90			\$281.90
Banking Service Charges & Cheques	\$112.00		\$66.01	\$178.01
Bookkeeping	\$2,105.06			\$2,105.06
WCB Premiums	\$108.48			\$108.48
Advertising	\$660.92			\$660.92
<i>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</i>	<i>\$149,185.17</i>	<i>\$0.00</i>	<i>\$20,209.06</i>	<i>\$169,394.23</i>

How the Funding Was Spent

Expense	Percent of Total Expenses
Pre School	23
School and Community Programs wages (summer staff, educators and coordinator)	48
School and Community Programs other	2
Nature Centre Maintenance and Improvements	21
Sales and Fund raising costs	3
Administration (book keeping, insurance, office supplies) and general expenses that support all programs	3

Thoughts about Finances

Note that the School and Community Programs wages are 48% (\$81 147) of the total expenses. This covers Summer Staff, Nature Educators, and Coordinator wages. The Williams Lake Field Naturalists are very grateful to the City of Williams Lake (\$12 500 fee for service), Fisheries and Oceans Canada (\$10 000 fee Education Coordinator), and School District 27 (\$6000 School Programs Grant) for their consistent funding for staff wages. Grants, local donations and volunteer time done by the staff help to make up the difference so that we have been able to expand programs a bit each year. Without dependable sources of funding for wages, it is difficult to hire and keep new young staff. The fees parents pay for our pre school almost cover the wages of the pre school staff. But again, it is volunteer time that allows there to be no overhead for this program. It has been policy to provide nature programs for free or low fees so that everyone can take part. Fees cover just 6% of our total revenues.

In-kind Support

The Nature Centre received in-kind support from the City of Williams Lake for maintenance, utilities, and upgrades to buildings (\$8600). An additional **4357 hours valued at \$89 225** volunteer time was donated by members of the Williams Lake Field Naturalists and other community members. There were also donated materials and services amounting to **\$19 950** from Fisheries and Oceans, Community Businesses, Gavin Lake, and others. This is a significant and essential part of the Nature Centre's working budget.

**Go Out Into Nature
Take Someone with You**