

Wells Gray Community Forest (2010) Society

Contents for 2016 Annual Report

Society Trustees:

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Society Function

The Wells Gray Community Forest (2010) Society works in unison with the Wells Gray Community Forest Corporation to provide benefits to the broader community from the management of the Wells Gray Community Forest License.

The Society's function is to hold the shares of the Wells Gray Community Forest Corporation (which manages the forest and harvests the License); provide fiduciary oversight of the Corporation; and distribute the dividends generated by forest harvesting to community organizations within Wells Gray Country (TNRD Electoral Area 'A') and the District of Clearwater, for community projects.

Society Activities in 2016

Governance Development

In 2015 the Society engaged a consultant (Susan Mulkey, BC Community Forest Association) to improve the Society's governance structure (including drafting a Management Agreement between the Society and the Corporation). In 2016 the governance reports generated by Ms Mulkey were used to begin enhancing the Society's policies and procedures, in particular financial and accounting systems. It is anticipated further refinements to the Society's policies and procedures will continue in 2017.

Grants/Loans

The Wells Gray Community Forest Corporation generated higher than normal revenue in 2016 because of the strong log markets, and therefore in addition to the funds distributed to the community via the Society's normal spring and fall granting cycles (usually approximately \$150,000), the Society made available an additional \$1,000,000 for large projects.

The top portion of the table below lists the approved small grant applications (31) from the spring and fall granting cycles, and the 4 entries at the bottom of the table itemize the large grant applications approved.

There were no loans made in 2016. However a loan repayment of \$20,000 was received from the District of Clearwater as first payment on the \$100,000 interest-free loan made in 2015 for the Dutch Lake Community Centre Biomass Furnace.

Approved Small Grant Applications in 2016

Organization	Project	Grants
Clearwater Fire Department	Fireworks display	\$1,000.00
Vavenby Legion Branch 259	Kitchen stove and cupboards	\$4,200.00
Clearwater Minor Ball	Big Steel Box Storage	\$5,000.00
Wells Gray Outdoor Club	Build mountain bike trails	\$25,000.00
Wells Gray Riders Association	Build an announcer building and storage shed	\$6,000.00
Evergreen Acres	Renovate the seniors centre hall	\$6,000.00
Clearwater Elks 499	Kitchen appliance replacement and bathroom floor replacement	\$4,000.00
Wells Gray Curling Club	Recondition rocks	\$8,200.00
North Thompson Art Council	Children's Festival	\$1,100.00
Clearwater Senior Secondary	Purchase and fix Treadmill	\$1,000.00
Clearwater Senior Secondary	Uniforms	\$2,000.00
Clearwater Senior Secondary	Shop enhancements	\$8,600.00
North Thompson Art Council	Storage and supplies	\$375.00
Thompson Rivers University	Gymnastics Equipment	\$4,192.20
Wells Gray Country Seniors Society	Transit to events	\$2,000.00
North Thompson	Cultural Items	\$1,000.00

Aboriginal Cultural Society		
District of Clearwater	Trail Building	\$28,743.37
Back Country Horseman NT Chapter of BC	Trail restoration in Upper Clearwater	\$750.00
Simpcw First Nations	First Nations Snowboard Team activities	\$2,500.00
Royal Canadian Legion Vavenby Br259	Exterior repairs and refurbishing	\$2,000.00
Evergreen Acres	Renovate 3 apartments and one bathroom	\$8,600.00
Clearwater Senior Secondary	Family day	\$700.00
Clearwater Ski Hill	Maintenance of groomer	\$14,000.00
Wells Gray Outdoor Club (BC Rabbits)	Community coaching course	\$500.00
Clearwater Youth Soccer Association	Uniforms and equipment	\$2,160.00
Yellowhead Community Services	Furniture for early years centre	\$3,400.00
District of Clearwater	Equipment for gymnastics and fitness programs	\$13,320.00
Clearwater Senior Secondary	Gym equipment	\$2,500.00
District of Clearwater	Hockey Tournament	\$1,500.00
District of Clearwater	Winter Festival	\$500.00
Raft River PAC	Jerseys	\$3,250.00
	Total Regular Grants	<u>\$164,090.57</u>

Approved Large Grant Applications in 2016

Organization	Project	Grant (contingent on using as leveraging funds)
Wells Gray Outdoor Club	Building mountain bike trails	\$40,000.00
District of Clearwater	Construction of Park Drive multi-use pathway 1.6 km	\$180,000.00
Yellowhead Community Services	Affordable Housing	\$300,000.00
Evergreen Acres	Seniors Housing	\$300,000.00
	Total Large Grants	<u>\$820,000.00</u>

Total grants/loans approved for distribution since the Wells Gray Community Forest inception in 2006 is **\$986,868.86** from the spring and fall regular grant application cycles, plus **\$820,000.00** from the Large Grant application process completed in 2106, for a grand total of **\$1,806,868.86**.

Example Grants for 2016

The following examples are but two of the many projects funded recently by the Wells Gray Community Forest (2010) Society:

Community Recreation and Healthy Living Gymnastics and Fitness Equipment

District of Clearwater (\$13,320 grant).

The District of Clearwater's Community Recreation & Healthy Living (CRHL) program was granted \$13,320 for Gymnastics and Kick Boxing equipment.



The Gymnastics program has benefited the children and youth in Clearwater and surrounding area over a long period of time, and current and expected demand remain high.

The Gymnastics program was facilitated for many years by Thompson Rivers University (TRU), and was recently transferred to the District of Clearwater in the Fall of 2016. Although key pieces of equipment were replaced previously by TRU using Wells Gray Community Forest grants, there were still many items of old equipment that required upgrading and renewal. In addition, an expanded program needed further equipment.

The Kick Boxing program, on the other hand, is relatively new, and it too is very popular.

To give an example of the popularity of the two programs, the number of registrants for the Gymnastics program was 97 (Fall 2016/Winter 2017), and during the same period Kick Boxing had 43 registrants as well as a number of drop-ins. The renewed and additional equipment will enable the programs to be expanded further as demand dictates.

The key pieces of equipment acquired with the Wells Gray Community Forest grant include: mini trampolines, balance beams, a range of mats, boxing glove sets, wall ladders, octagonal tumblers, and a multitude of other items. The photo shows some of the equipment in use.

The CRHL coordinator, instructors, and participants alike are delighted with the new equipment, and how it has assisted to further interest in fitness by our young people.

Clearwater Children's Art Festival

North Thompson Art Council (\$1,100 grant).

The 5th Annual Clearwater Children's Art Festival was held on Wednesday, August 3, 2016 at the Dutch Lake Community Centre field.

Over 200 people attended including children of all ages and their family members. Twelve art stations were provided with hands-on art experiences for children to explore.



GREENSCAPES PHOTOGRAPHY
BY
Christine Wright

Mural painting, clay creations, puppet making, theatre, face painting, paper flower making, music and more were provided on site.

Most of the stations provided opportunities for children to make something they could take home with them. There was also an interactive music concert provided by Vernon-based group *Barefoot Caravan* that included drumming, singing and dancing.

The local feature artist of this year's festival was Doris Laner, who was on site with a selection of her works, to meet and inspire young artists.

Everybody had a wonderful time and is looking forward to next year's festival!