

2021 ANNUAL REPORT



CONNECT. TEACH. SUSTAIN.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Over the past two years, there has been an increased appreciation for the benefits on getting outside in nature for both mental and physical health. At CTS, we don't need to read a study or see a headline to be reminded of this as we have been seeing the positive effects of nature first-hand for over 20 years.

Most recently at this year's barbeque, we heard over and over from participants whose lives have been changed through CTS. A few described their growth from a shy teenager to becoming a leader. Many shared of how CTS inspired career paths in environmental or other studies. While some described how CTS was an escape from bullying and other challenges in life. One theme that was consistent in all their testimonies was how CTS had inspired a lifelong love of nature and the confidence to improve their own lives and the world around them.

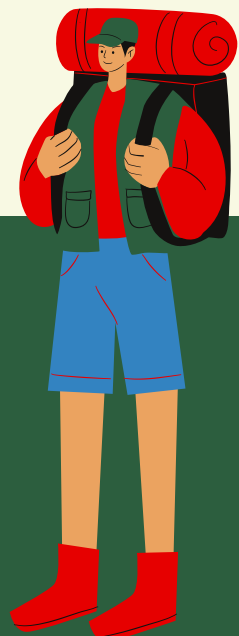
Year after year, CTS offers free transformational outdoor experience to youth, and we are grateful for all the help and support we receive from our community. Our donors such as Metro Vancouver Regional Parks, TD Friends of the Environment Foundation, Canada Summer Jobs, and Pacific Parklands Foundation have supported us for decades. The Metro Vancouver Regional Parks staff and all of the staff and volunteers with our park partners, too many to name... Thank you!

It has been a pleasure to serve alongside our volunteer board of directors and the committed staff at CTS Youth Society. On behalf of us all and the youth we serve, our sincere appreciation and gratitude. Most deeply of all, thank you to all the youth who come out to the parks, serve on the Youth Council, and volunteer as Mentorvisors: your journey is what inspires us to continue offering outdoor nature programs for the next generation of youth like you.

Sincerely
Adam Heffey, President
Janet Antonio, Executive Director

"CTS helped me discover what I was capable of as a person, a friend, and a leader."

-Sean Chung, Peer Leader & CTS Participant



METRO VANCOUVER REGIONAL PARKS

CTS Youth Society is here today because of the longterm support from Metro Vancouver Regional Parks (MVRP). For over 20 years, they have hosted our programs in the regional parks and covered a significant portion of our operating costs on an annual basis.



PACIFIC PARKLANDS FOUNDATION

Pacific Parklands Foundation is also a notable supporter. Nurturing nature, protecting parklands, and connecting people with their natural environment, the Foundation supports CTS Youth programs by raising funds in support of outdoor education and stewardship projects in the regional parks.

DONORS AND SUPPORTERS

For many Metro Vancouver youth, CTS Youth Society is the only option they have to experience nature and gain lifelong skills, memories and friendships at summer camp. Our donors and supporters change young people's lives by removing financial barriers and giving the gift of summer camp, year after year.

metrovancouver

 TELUS Friendly
Future Foundation

 Pacific Parklands
FOUNDATION
Supporting Metro Vancouver Regional Parks

 Foundation
Foundation

 TD Friends of the
Environment
Foundation

 CPRA ACPL

 Government
of Canada
Gouvernement
du Canada
Canada

CAMPER ATTENDANCE

252

SMILING
CAMPERS

112

HOUSEHOLDS CONNECTED
WITH NATURE

20

CAMPS HELD

16

WEEKEND STEWARDSHIP
ACTIVITIES

4

WEEKDAY EXPLORER CAMPS
(NEW THIS YEAR!)

ATTENDANCE BY LOCATION

100

PARTICIPANTS

Burnaby Lake

68

PARTICIPANTS

Pacific Spirit

45

PARTICIPANTS

Capilano River

39

PARTICIPANTS

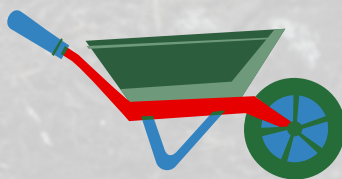
Tynehead

PARK PROJECTS



233

Park Project
Participants



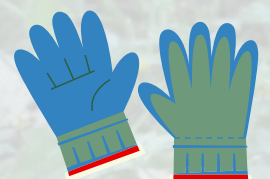
24

Projects



10

Park Partners



466

Volunteer Hours

4

STEWARDSHIP PROJECTS

51

storm drains marked

11

invasive species
removals

6

operations work parties
(camp/trail maintenance,
resurfacing, fence building)

3

garden beds
maintained

2

site visits
(VARC and Tynehead
Hatchery)

2

restoration
mulching projects
with Pacific Spirit
Park Society

1

dumpster bin filled with
pulled invasive species.

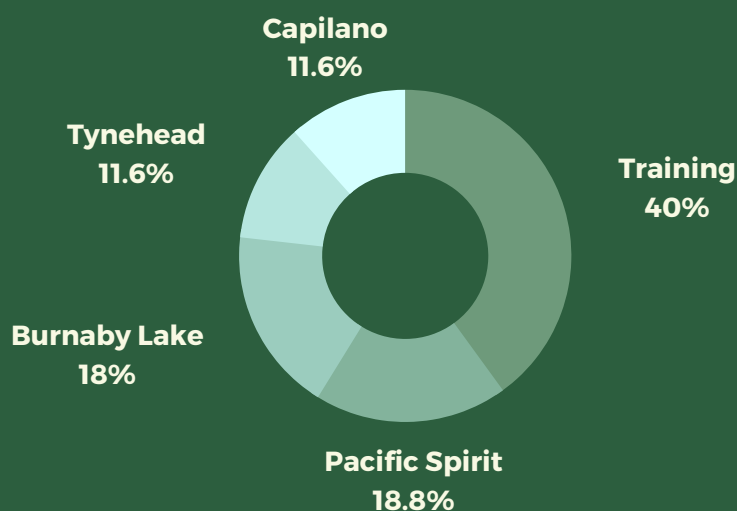
"CTS was an opportunity for a kid
who grew up in the city to start a
love for nature that has never
stopped growing."

-Rafa Narciso, Program Coordinator & Past CTS Participant



PEER LEADER PROGRAM

A Peer Leader (PL) is a CTS youth member (age 15-18) that plans and leads the camp excursions in Metro Vancouver regional parks with other members of the Peer Leader team. Peer Leaders are trained for 5 weeks in leadership, environmental awareness and stewardship, outdoor recreation and outdoor safety connections. They work throughout the summer alongside Mentorvisors (hired staff supervisors), making our "for youth, by youth" programs the best they can be!



PL VOLUNTEER HOUR BREAKDOWN

This year, we had a total of 24 Peer Leaders (15 new to the PL program, 4 completely new to CTS). They logged a total of 10 training sessions, 2068 volunteer hours, and ran 24 camps.

After a 1 year hiatus, we were also able to hold a Peer Leader end-of-season overnight camp!

"CTS pushed me out of my comfort zone and taught me how to be independent and brave in my first time away from home. This program connected me with youth from all over Metro Vancouver, gave me the opportunity to make a difference in the parks around me, and so much more!"

-Patricia Ho, Peer Leader & CTS Participant



MENTORVISORS

This year, 8 summer supervising staff were hired, 6 of which were previous Peer Leaders and CTS participants, 1 who was new to the program, and 2 part-time staff. These roles were generously funded by Canada Summer Jobs and TD Friends of the Environment.



SUMMER PROJECTS

Each year our Mentorvisors, funded through Canada Summer Jobs, have the opportunity to complete special projects, often developing long-term resources for future campers. Special projects in 2021 included promotional videos, yearbooks, presentations, training manuals and other content creation that will benefit CTS Youth in the years to come.

[Click to watch the Summer 2021 Video!](#)

TRYING SOMETHING NEW

The team held 3 Mentorvisor-Led workshops (Birds of Burnaby, Survive Outside, T-shirts to Tote Bag).

Community gardening was really well received, with 6 sessions (2 hours each) and 36 participants.

The Year-End BBQ had youth testing their event planning and culinary skills, serving a plant-based meal to 80 attendees.

12 CTS Youth joined forces with Pacific Spirit Park Society (PSPS) in environmental stewardship activities.



THE FIGURES

INCOME

● Grants - Federal Government	\$63,855
● Grants - Municipal Government	\$75,000
● Grants - BC Gaming	\$18,253
● Grants - Other	\$95,995
● Other Revenue	\$9,790
● Total:	\$262,893

EXPENSES

● Communications/PR	\$2,244
● Administration	\$16,683
● Salaries and Benefits	\$209,306
● Admin Support	\$3,220
● Program Expenses	\$14,913
● Total:	\$ 246,366



Board of Directors



Adam Heffey
Chair



Kevin O'Callaghan
Vice President



Charlotte Avery
Treasurer



Danielle De Marchi
Secretary



Logan Wilmarth
Director



Dave Pohl
Director



Sarah Marsh
Director



David Leavers
Ex-Officio Member



Nancy Sinclair
Director



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SUMMER 2021 THAT'S A WRAP!



@ctsyouthsociety

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