

2022 ANNUAL REPORT



CONNECT. TEACH. SUSTAIN.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Over the past 20 years, CTS youth programs have built a strong network of support from the community. Every year, youth volunteer thousands of hours through stewardship activities in Regional Parks. Peer Leaders receive training and volunteer their time to support other youth with adventures in nature. The CTS Youth Council volunteers throughout the school year to fulfil the CTS motto of "For Youth by Youth," giving feedback on program developments and new initiatives. Parents, program alumni and community volunteers also share their time and expertise as volunteer directors on the CTS board.

Metro Vancouver Regional Parks and Metro Vancouver Regional Parks Foundation have been part of this vibrant partnership that continues to deepen through shared values and a shared mission. Every year, Metro Vancouver Regional Parks staff go the extra mile. From preparing the campsites, to delivering water, to working alongside the youth as they learn to remove invasive species and plant native plants.

As part of this partnership, MVRP Foundation provides financial assistance and in-kind support. Last year, CTS also received financial support from members of the local film industry through the REEL Earth Day Challenge. Other local supporters include the Environmental Youth Alliance, TELUS and Storm Tech. Individual donors to the program include program alumni, past volunteers and parents.

Equally important are the partnerships that support CTS through connections in the community. This includes Nature Kids, Métis Association North Fraser Chapter, Stream of Dreams Mural Society, Spanish Banks Stream Keepers, Burnaby Lake Park Association, Vancouver Aviation Research Centre, Pacific Spirit Park Society, Colony Farm Park Association and many others.

CTS is a unique organization that depends on the support of our volunteers, donors and partners. Thank you. It's our volunteers, donors, youth and parents who have created a legacy with CTS, and life-changing experiences for youth.

Sincerely,
Adam Heffey, President
Janet Antonio, Executive Director

"The community really allows a space for people to grow and become better than they already are, and to be themselves without being ashamed or embarrassed. I've met some of my closest friends at CTS!"

-Zoe Ng, 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.



METRO VANCOUVER REGIONAL PARKS FOUNDATION

Metro Vancouver Regional Parks 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.

metrovancover

TELUS Friendly
Future Foundation

METRO VANCOUVER
REGIONAL PARKS
FOUNDATION

RBC
Foundation
Foundation

TD
TD Friends of the
Environment
Foundation

CPRA ACPL

Government of Canada
Gouvernement du Canada
Canada

EYA
ENVIRONMENTAL
YOUTH ALLIANCE

CAMPER ATTENDANCE

506

SMILING CAMPERS

216

HOUSEHOLDS CONNECTED
WITH NATURE

19

CAMPS HELD

26

STEWARDSHIP
ACTIVITIES

6

STELLARS
JAY AWARDS

ATTENDANCE BY LOCATION

117

PARTICIPANTS

Burnaby Lake
Regional Park

98

PARTICIPANTS

Pacific Spirit
Regional Park

85

PARTICIPANTS

Capilano River
Regional Park

55

PARTICIPANTS

Tynehead
Regional Park

PARK PROJECTS



223+

Planning &
Training Hours



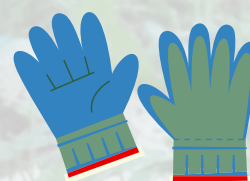
26

Projects &
Learning Sessions



4

Park
Partnerships



3,940

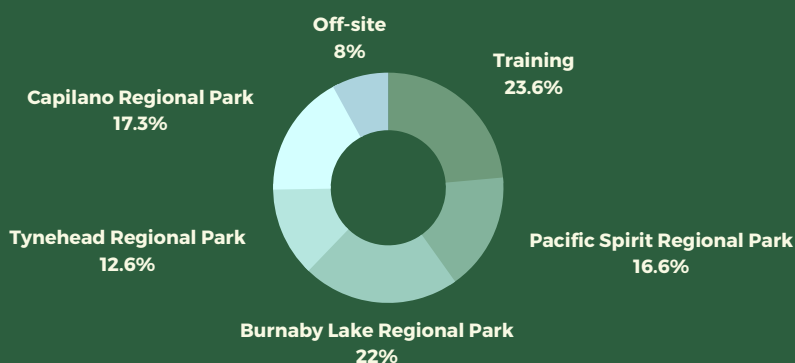
Volunteer
Hours

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. They work throughout the summer alongside Camp Supervisors, making our "for youth, by youth" programs the best they can be!



PL VOLUNTEER HOUR BREAKDOWN



This year, we had a total of 20 Peer Leaders (15 previous CTS participants). They completed 5 training sessions (660 hours total), 1,940 on-site volunteer hours, 223 off-site volunteer hours, and ran 20 camps.

With the great work by our PL team, we were able to reopen our overnight programs to full capacity!

We do so many things! [CTS Youth Society] teaches you about environmental awareness, plant identification, sustainability. We do these stewardship projects every weekend with CTS and it's a way to give back to the community. It makes me so grateful that I'm able to come into these parks"

-Logan Wilmarth, Peer Leader & CTS Participant



CAMP SUPERVISORS

Of the nine summer 2022 supervising staff that were hired, six were previous Peer Leaders and CTS participants, and two were brought to us through the Environmental Youth Alliance (EYA). These roles were generously funded by Canada Summer Jobs, EYA, and TD Friends of the Environment.

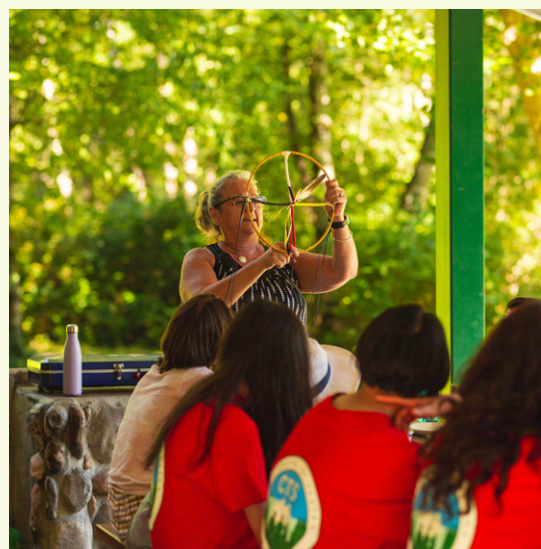


YOUTH COUNCIL

The CTS Youth Council consists of a group of youth, (age 15-18), who dedicate time beyond leading camps in the summer to keep CTS thriving throughout the school year! These passionate youth help plan events, fundraisers, and outreach to keep the CTS community connected in the off-season. This is a space where young people develop their interpersonal skills, hang out with awesome people, and make a positive impact on their community.

MISHKOOPITUM "DISCOVER" CAMPS

This year, CTS Youth Society, Stream of Dreams and the North Fraser Métis Association partnered up to bring "Mishkoopitum" (meaning "discover") Camps to life in regional parks. Presented by Indigenous community representatives and free and open to all youth, participants were invited to acquire knowledge from Métis and First Nations world-views and culture through games, art, food and storytelling in nature. The first ever launch of Mishkoopitum Camps were at full capacity (plus a waitlist) this summer, showing great interest from youth.



THE FIGURES

REVENUE

● Government Grants	\$103,003
● Metro Vancouver Contribution	\$75,000
● Donations & Program Funding	\$88,713
● Total:	\$266,716

EXPENSES

● Salaries & Benefits	\$164,128
● Office & Misc.	\$31,343
● Other Program Costs*	\$6,271
● Advertising	\$1,214
● Total:	\$202,956

**Includes repairs and maintenance.*

"The really great personal development and volunteering experiences that I [received] with CTS enhanced my university and scholarship applications. It actually earned me a full ride scholarship. Thank you CTS!"

-Bethanea Chou, Camp Supervisor & Past CTS Participant



STEWARDSHIP PROJECTS

- Amphibian habitat restoration
- Community garden
- Bug counts
- Restoration mulching projects
- Watershed research and protection (Fish on Fences)

Board of Directors



Adam Heffey
Chair



Kevin O'Callaghan
Vice President



Charlotte Avery
Treasurer



Danielle De Marchi
Secretary



Erin Harlos
Director



Nancy Sinclair
Director



Christina Chen
Director



Susan Chung
Director

Metro Vancouver Representative: David Leavers



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2022 THAT'S A WRAP!



@ctsyouthsociety

www.ctsyouthsociety.com

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