

**METCHOSIN FOUNDATION  
2017 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**Sunday May 8, 2017 at 7:00 pm**

**Venue:** St. Mary of the Incarnation Church, 41225 Metchosin Road, Victoria, BC

**Present:** Carol Carman (Chair), Joel Ussery (Vice Chair), Kem Luther (Secretary), Bev Hall (Director), Mike Fischer (Director), Jacqueline Clare (Director), Guest Speaker Richard Hebda, about 30 members and guests.

**1. Welcome and Call to Order by Chair Carol Carman**

**2. Review of activities since the 2016 AGM (summary attached as Appendix A)**

**3. Business Meeting:**

- Motion to Approve the Minutes of the 2016 AGM moved by Kem Luther. Seconded by Bev Hall. Carried.
- Director's Resolutions: Dan MacIsaac served as Returning Officer and submitted an Omnibus Bill nominating the new slate of Directors and Officers. Dan was not able to attend so Joel Ussery presented the Omnibus Bill.
- The Omnibus Bill:

1) The following persons are confirmed as elected Directors of the Society (year 2 of 1st term of 4 years) until successors are appointed in accordance with the bylaws:

Jacqueline Clare  
Michael Fischer  
Beverly Hall

2) The following persons are confirmed as re-elected as Directors of the Society (year 2 of 2nd term) until successors are appointed in accordance with the bylaws:

Kem Luther  
Joel Ussery

3) Carol Jean Carman is confirmed as re-elected as a Director of the Society (year 4 of 2nd term of 4 years) until a successor is appointed in accordance with the bylaws.

4) The following persons are confirmed as appointed Officers of the Society for the ensuing year:

PRESIDENT - Carol Jean Carman

VICE-PRESIDENT - Joel Ussery  
TREASURER - Joel Ussery  
SECRETARY - Kem Luther

- 5) The appointment of an auditor is confirmed as waived for the coming year.
- 6) The production and publication of financial statements by the directors of the Company are hereby waived and tabled to the next meeting.
- 7) The Members of the Society hereby confirm February 12 (incorporation anniversary date) as the annual reference date for the Society.
- 8) The Solicitors for the coming year shall be Maclsaac & Maclsaac, 2227 Sooke Road, Victoria, B.C.
- 9) The annual membership fee for membership in the Society remains set at \$10.00.

- Motion to approve Omnibus Bill by Frank Mitchell. Seconded by Chris Pratt. Carried.
- Financial Report. Presented by Joel Ussery. See Appendix B. The Financial Report only reflects activity up to the end of 2016.
- Potential Future Projects: brief outline by Carol Carman.

This coming year, the Metchosin Foundation will be partnering with the Habitat Acquisition Trust on two of their projects.

HAT's Good Neighbours Project supports landowners who would like advice on how best to steward the environmental value of their properties.

Homeowners often have many questions but limited sources of quality information on topics like gardening, tree care, pets outside, and invasive species.

Metchosin shoreline residents will soon be receiving a survey to find out if they are interested in learning more about how to protect and manage the ecosystems and species on their properties.

HAT stewards will offer to visit them and provide information and assistance about what steps can be taken to safeguard the property – or recognize the outstanding work that may already be done.

HAT will be working with Metchosin schools as part of its Greenspots initiative, examining how to implement environmental stewardship on school properties.

- Questions from the Membership.
- Other Business. None.
- Adjournment at 7:30 pm.

**4. Refreshment Break**

- 5. Introduction of Guest Speaker. Dr. Richard Hebda** spoke on “Climate Change: Crossing a Threshold and How We Can Adapt”. Questions followed. As guest speaker, Dr. Hebda was presented with a box of Metchosin Foundation Nature Cards, a copy of Kem Luther’s recently published book *Boundary Layer*, and a gift certificate for chocolates.

## **Appendix A: Annual Report from Chair Carol Carman**

**May 1 2016 – May 1 2017**

- Welcome to members and guests to this, the ninth AGM of the Metchosin Foundation, incorporated in 2008.
- Welcome also to our eminent speaker this evening, Dr. Richard Hebda. Among other accomplishments, he has served as the curator of Botany and Earth History at the Royal BC Museum for 32 years.
- This meeting will begin with the AGM business, break for refreshments, and then reconvene to hear what Dr. Hebda has to say.
- I am delighted to have the honour of introducing you to our Board of Directors.
  - Vice-President Joel Ussery is currently the Manager of Resource Planning for the Capital Regional District, Water, and has helped to create the Green and Blue Spaces Strategy for the District of Metchosin. Ask him anything about “managing Invasive Plant Species in Garry Oak Meadows”.
  - Dr. Kem Luther is a naturalist and much-published author who has studied and taught at several of North America’s great universities and who often gives lectures and guided walks for local natural history groups. His expertise stretches across the fields of natural history, botanical exploration, philosophical speculation – and Computer Science... Amazing!
  - Bev Hall combines her love of environmental research science and laboratory work. Thanks to her, we have the first of a series of “insect boxes” collected by UVic students – please take some time to have a look. They are a great teaching tool. Bev has a wonderful eye and talent for photography. You may already be familiar with her coffee table books and photo note cards. She is also an accomplished paraglider with an insatiable taste for travel.
  - This past year we have been fortunate to include some very capable younger people on our board.
    - Jacqueline Clare is an M.Sc. graduate from UVic whose research thesis focused on Clayoquot Sound’s resident grey whale population. Her primary research interests include ecology, resource management, GIS and cartography. Currently, she manages ecosystem data for the BC Ministry of Environment.
    - The multi-talented Mike Fischer is an electrical and mechanical engineer, who turned his attention from astronomy to focus on energy systems and sustainability. He “walks the talk” personally with his balanced and sustainable lifestyle and his activities to support local planning, food security and resilience. In 2010 he co-founded a technology start-up in high efficiency LED

lighting while working on his Master's Degree in Computer Science and farming part time. Impressive!

- And Nicole Lalonde – where are you? We all want to publicly thank Nicole Lalonde for her dedication to keeping our finances and accounts in order.
- Our mandate as a charitable organization is to promote awareness of the unique ecologies that surround us, to preserve, to educate and to take positive action where possible.
- We in Metchosin share this space with a vast array of life forms. Through the past six year of annual Bio-Diversity Days, over 2300 species have been identified.
- People are encouraged to get to know this world through Monthly Walk-'n-Talks. Thanks to Moralea Milne, Joel Ussery, and Kem Luther for their dedication to this ongoing educational project.
- One talk and walk event, underwritten by the Metchosin Foundation and a huge donation of local labour, saw the creation of over 20 large bat houses. Special thanks to the extra-ordinary Ole Frang for his hard work and precise carpentry in creating all the parts for these complex boxes for the teams to assemble. These specially designed houses were given to residents of Metchosin, who put them up in bat-friendly places and are now awaiting their residents.
- A conservation covenant is a legal tool for landowners who wish to protect natural ecosystems on their property in perpetuity. The Metchosin Foundation has worked with landowners and the Habitat Acquisition Trust to establish several of these in our region. One more covenant is underway this year, and we are always on the look-out for more opportunities to assist with habitat assessment work, legal costs, etc.
- Over the past year, the Foundation focused on education and outreach to our youth.
- Thanks to a generous donation from a local citizen who wishes to remain anonymous, we are offering scholarships to graduating Grade 12 students who live in Metchosin for:
  - Academic Achievement
  - Environmental Stewardship
  - Community Citizenship, and
  - To a graduating student from the Beecher Bay First Nation
- Deadline for application is Monday, May 15 so encourage your young people to apply ASAP. Information is available through each of the three high schools and on our website.
- We are very proud of our sets of 50 Nature Cards featuring common Metchosin plant species. The team of Kem Luther, Moralea Milne, Andy MacKinnon, Bev Hall, and Danny Buchanan developed these with the support and advice of teachers at Hans Helgesen and Westmont schools who often take their classes out for “forest time” in the early mornings. These heavy-stock cards feature

excellent photos – some of them Beverley’s – plus easy-to-read descriptions of their appearance, habitat and uses – often tapping the First Nations traditional knowledge for additional information. We have donated decks to the schools, of course, but they are becoming very popular within and beyond Metchosin and are available for sale at the real bargain price of \$35.00 each.

- Again working with the schools, we have developed large maps of Metchosin in two formats to show students the shape and texture of this community – lands, waters, forests, salt marshes, creeks, rivers and trails.
- In conclusion, it would be remiss of me if I failed to extend our thanks to all of the Metchosinites who support the work of this board – teachers, farmers, parents, professionals, public figures, former board members such as Chris Pratt, Dan MacIsaac, Frank Mitchell.
- We all share an understanding, I think, that precious things are often very fragile and need our care.

## Appendix B: Financial Statement as of Dec 31, 2016

Compiled by Nicole Lalonde, Bookkeeper

### Income

Membership	270.00	In 2015, \$470 was received
Donations	5928.70	
VCMF donations	922.70	
Bank Interests	44.97	
Fundraising	0.00	We did not do the Halloween Dance this year
	<b>7166.37</b>	

### Expenses

Office Expenses	448.70	Biodiversity website/MCA House rental and membership
Other Expenses	685.00	Director's insurance
Fundraising	286.92	2015 Halloween Dance, 2016 Metchosin Day
Bank Charges	0.00	
Legal & Accounting	0.00	
Gift & Donations	3478.95	School backpacks/HAT Good Neighbour/Westmont sign
	<b>4899.57</b>	

### Bank Accounts @ Dec 31/16

Chequing	7220.20
Savings	3565.86
BioBlitz	1259.49
VCMF	2110.18
GIC (Chequing)	10000.00
GIC (VCMF)	7000.00
	<b>32155.73</b>

### Metchosin Foundation

**Stewardship Fund 35349.14**

An endowment with Victoria Foundation from which the Metchosin Foundation receives annual interest.