



MINUTES

WildResearch Annual General Meeting 2016

Date: November 19, 2016

Location: Trout Lake Community Centre, 3360 Victoria Dr., Vancouver, BC

Time: 6:00-6:45 PM

In Attendance:

WildResearch Board of Directors: Christine Rock (President), Jason Brogan (Treasurer), Emily McAuley (Secretary; via Google Hangouts), Renae Mackas (Director at Large)

WildResearch Members: Elly Knight (WildResearch Nightjar Survey Program Manager), Angela Bond, Wally Fletcher, Azim Shariff, Leslie Bol, Andrew Huang, Alan McKenzie, Donna McKenzie, Catriona Leven, Kelly Sekhon, Seth Bennett, Stephen Partington, Gail Kenner, Murray Lashmar, Hannah Nieman, Courtney Lahue, Rob Knight, Ken Flores, Myles Lamont, Ildiko Szabo, Nathalie Scott-Hsiung, Christine Bishop, Jasmin Caballero, David Ricalde, Paul Levesque

Non-Members: Pip Humphreys

Regrets: Virginia Noble-Dalton (Director at Large)

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS – Christine Rock

- Meeting was called to order at 18:03 PST
- **Welcome:** Local and remote introductions of board members.
- Additions to agenda? – Christine Rock requested that past board members be recognized

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA – Christine Rock

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM THE 2015 AGM – Christine Rock

- Available at http://wildresearch.ca/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/WildResearch-AGM-Minutes-2015_DRAFT_full.pdf



Motion: Pending correction of spelling of Gail Kenner's last name, motion to accept the minutes from the WildResearch Annual General Meeting.

Moved by: Donna McKenzie

Seconded by: Gail Kenner

Decision: Motion carried unanimously

4. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

- Presented by President Christine Rock
- See Appendix A

Motion: To approve the 2016 WildResearch President's Report.

Moved by: Seth Bennet

Seconded by: Alan McKenzie

Decision: Motions carries unanimously

5. TREASURER'S REPORT

- Presented by Treasurer Jason Brogan
- See Appendix B

Motion: To approve the 2016 WildResearch Treasurer's Report.

Moved by: Stephen Partington

Seconded by: Gail Kenner

Decision: Motion carried unanimously

6. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Presented by Director at Large Renae Mackas
- See Appendix C

Motion: To approve the 2015 WildResearch Committee Reports.

Moved by: Wally Fletcher

Seconded by: Angela Bond

Decision: Motion carries unanimously

7. ELECTIONS

- The following are WildResearch members in good standing and are nominated for the positions listed on the Board of Directors:
 - President: Jay Brogan
 - Treasurer: Emily McAuley



- Secretary: Renae Mackas
- Director at Large: Virginia Noble-Dalton
- Director at Large: Andrew Huang
- Director at Large: Angela Bond
- Director at Large: Courtney Lahue
- Director at Large: Myles Lamont

- No other nominations made

Motion: To accept the slate of WildResearch members nominated for Board of Directors into the acclaimed positions.

Moved by: Wally Fletcher

Seconded by: Rob Knight

Decision: Motion carries unanimously with abstentions from Jay Brogan, Emily McAuley, Renae Mackas, Andrew Huang, Angela Bond, Courtney Lahue and Myles Lamont

8. RECOGNITION OF PAST DIRECTORS

- The following 2016 WildResearch Board of Directors have stepped down for 2017:
 - Elly Knight (Vice-President) – will stay on as Program Manager for Nighthawk Survey Program
 - Christine Rock (President) – will remain a lifetime member
- Current Board of Directors and members present passed on their thanks and appreciation for all of the contributions Christine and Elly have made.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: To adjourn the 2016 WildResearch AGM at 18:35 PST.

Moved by: Andrew Huang

Seconded by: Wally Fletcher

Decision: Motion carries unanimously

Please join us after the meeting for our 7th Annual Volunteer & Member Appreciation Party from 6:45 – 11:00 PM!



APPENDIX A

WildResearch President's Report 2016



President's Report

2016

by Christine Rock

After serving on the WildResearch Board in various positions since we initiated the organization just over 6-years ago, the time has come for me to resign from the Board. It has truly been a huge honor to be involved with growing the organization from the ground up, and a fantastic experience to see WildResearch grow to what it is today. I am very pleased that the organization is in a great position for continued successes and growth, with four developed research programs, a strong membership and dedicated core group of volunteers and committee members, secured funding for our programs, including multi-year funding for our Iona Island Bird Observatory flagship program, an experienced Board that each contributed to Strategic Planning, a well-established flagship fundraiser viewing pelagic seabirds rarely seen from shore, and long-term endowment fund that continued to grow in 2016 thanks to a grant from the Fairmont Vancouver Airport,

I have thoroughly enjoyed my involvement with WildResearch, most of all, building and growing the WildResearch community. The dedication and support shown from the membership has been inspirational – the organization is the people. With another year in review, here's a summary of what WE as an organization, have accomplished this year.

Now in its 7th year of operation, WildResearch's flagship program, the Iona Island Bird Observatory (IIBO), continued to run our annual spring and fall migration monitoring programs with excellence in 2016. Through these programs, WildResearch provided training to 90 volunteers that contributed 2,146 volunteer hours towards IIBO (the equivalent of 54 full weeks of work at 40hrs per week!!) and provided educational demonstrations to 11 visiting groups including Girl Guides of Canada, Nature Kids, UBC, BCIT, Fraser Valley University and the Fairmont Vancouver Airport's Sustainability Committee. Capture highlights for 2016 included a Palm Warbler this fall and a Virginia Rail and Sora in the spring. This fall the IIBO program also supported the successful completion of member Natasha Pirani's MSc. practicum through Royal Roads University. We were pleased for Natasha's pleasant presence at IIBO this fall, her quick draw with the camera, and all the photos she captured of volunteers and birds alike. A BIG thank you to The Sitka Foundation for major financial contributions that funded the Spring and Fall Migration Monitoring Program and allowed contracting our seasonal staff, including extraordinarily hard working Banders-in-Charge, Andrew Huang, Azim Shariff, Dan Froehlich, and Paul Levesque, and Banding Assistants, Sarah Nathan and Kiirsti Owen. Additional funding to run IIBO was generously provided by the City of Richmond and BC Nature and BC Naturalists' Foundation. Thanks also to volunteer coordinators Renae Mackas, Angela Bond, Mikaela Davis, and to Metro Vancouver Regional Park's Melanie Blendell, Markus Merkins, and Robyn Worcester for their role in making IIBO a resounding success.

The once BC focused WildResearch Nightjar Survey Program continued to spread its wings in 2016, with an expansion to five additional provinces and territories across Canada to now include survey routes across British Columbia Alberta, Saskatchewan, New Brunswick, the Yukon, and Northwest Territories. Led by Program Manager, Elly Knight, and Regional Coordinators Paul Preston, Gabriel & Amanda Foley, Virginia & Alex Noble-Dalton, Andrea Sidler, and Rhiannon Pankratz, WildResearch enlisted the support from the over 135 volunteers that completed over 253 survey routes across the country. This program's data contributions and research focus continues to lead the way in terms of our knowledge of three nightjar species with ranges throughout the study area including Common Poorwill, Common Nighthawk, and Eastern Whip-Poor-Will. Results will be presented in the 2016 Nightjar Survey Annual Report and in peer-reviewed papers that are currently underway. This year,

WildResearch also participated in national meetings to discuss standardized nightjar protocols, released an online data atlas hosted by the Community Mapping Network, hosted 8 survey orientation sessions for 51 participants across the country, and continued partnership with University of Alberta's Bioacoustic Unit, and sustained correspondence with nightjar volunteers through production of a bi-monthly nightjar e-newsletter! TD Friends of the Environment, Canada Summer Jobs Program, and The Nature Trust of British Columbia kindly provided funding for running this program in 2016. We sincerely thank Bird Studies Canada, the Breeding Bird Survey, our program coordinator employee, Alessandra Hood, and many naturalists groups for their support in promoting and participating in our Nightjar Survey program across the country.

This year the WildResearch Butterfly Program expanded its reach by establishing and building relationships with other like-minded organizations across the Lower Mainland. We kicked off the program by hosting our Annual Butterfly Identification Workshop in conjunction with Metro Vancouver Regional Park at Campbell Valley Regional Park in Langley. Program Manager, Renae Mackas also attended several events to promote learning about butterflies at the following events: Environmental Youth Alliance – Native Pollinators, Citizen Science Program Workshops, and the City of Surrey's Environmental Extravaganza, Metro Vancouver Regional Park's Annual Butterfly Tea Party at Campbell Valley Regional Park, and the UBC Botanical Garden's Garden Days. Additionally, Renae organized and led butterfly group surveys to complete WildResearch's 5-year commitment to the BC Butterfly Atlas inventory program in local parks. Through all the outreach and survey events, we estimate that the Butterfly Program reached over 600 butterfly enthusiasts this year!

In 2015 we initiated an Adopt-a-(Cooper's) hawk nest monitoring pilot projects, and in 2016, the program evolved into the program 'Cooper's Hawks in the City', under the direction of WildResearch Director, Jay Brogan. Rather than focus on monitoring the success of individual nests, as the Adopt-a-(Cooper's) Hawk Nest program was aimed at, the Cooper's Hawk in the City Program is aimed at estimating the relative abundance of the Cooper's Hawk, in Metro Vancouver. As top predators, raptor species like to Cooper's Hawk are often one of the first species to be affected by a range of environmental pressures and can provide a cost-effective means of detecting environmental change. Understanding their relative abundance is the first step to studying potential environmental pressures, and thanks to the 10 volunteers that assisted with surveys in 2016, this work is underway.

The WildResearch newsletter, skill-advancing workshops, and regular social events continue to unite our community. Led by WildResearch Director, Virginia Noble, the newsletter provides our membership with an opportunity to share their conservation science interests and initiatives, and stay in touch with upcoming events and news. We sincerely thank all the members that have contributed content to the e-newsletter over the last year, especially Angela Bond, who provided content for the employment, volunteer, and academic opportunities section of the newsletter each week. Despite a few wet trips, the ever-popular Winter Bird Identification Field Trips, led by WildResearch Director, Jay Brogan, hosted a record number of participants this year. One of the highlights of our trips as observing a Bohemian Waxwing spotted by Dr. John Reynolds during the Christmas Bird Count and WildResearch trip at Iona Beach Regional Park, hearing raptor identification by wing loading thanks to WildResearch member, Paul Levesque, and learning from well-known birder, Tom Plath, during the Reifel Bird Sanctuary trip alongside NatureKids, Vancouver Chapter. Our Members' Services Committee (MSC) has been working hard to provide exceptional administrative assistance to our members, as well as organizing seasonal social events including the annual Bird Bag Making Party, kindly hosted by Idiko Szabo's, and the Annual Volunteer Appreciation Party.

It is with great admiration and appreciation that I extend a heartfelt thank you to our membership and supporters in 2016, as well as over the last 6-year of my appointment with WildResearch. It has been a great pleasure to lead the organization as President, while working towards a significant and common goal of leading conservation initiatives. I very much look forward to watching WildResearch continue to grow as an organization and will continue to support and cheer on the organization as a Life Member of the organization.



APPENDIX B

WildResearch Treasurer's Report 2016



WildResearch Treasurer's Report 2016

	<u>FY 2014</u>	<u>FY 2015</u>	<u>FY 2016*</u>
Revenue			
Grants	15,855.00	59,791.50	39,954.00
Donations	6,435.00	42,446.98	8,234.94
Total Fundraising	17,953.85	20,690.00	70.00
Membership Dues	8,518.00	10,292.00	5,980.00
Program Service Fees	200.00	1,832.85	1,400.00
Savings Interest	33.17	535.57	49.34
Miscellaneous Revenue	-	424.35	603.80
Total Revenue	<u>48,995.02</u>	<u>136,013.25</u>	<u>56,292.08</u>
Expense			
Payroll Expenses			
Salary/Wages Expense	15,000.00	15,598.78	2,081.70
CPP - Company Expense	655.86	437.24	116.24
EI - Company Expense	394.80	263.20	69.48
Payroll Expenses - Other	43.50	698.78	245.00
Program Costs			
Field Supplies	8,843.37	12,397.22	6,192.99
Contracts	12,185.00	10,160.00	16,120.00
Program Costs - Other	-	22.22	310.00
General & Administrative			
Office Supplies	921.41	1,003.80	153.44
Phone, Internet & Fax	154.58	496.02	-
Postage, Mailing Service	741.25	1,659.54	53.49
Printing and Copying	-	688.13	171.98
Computer, Web & IT	3,028.82	3,670.09	9,842.30
Bank Fees	-	150.40	-
PayPal Fees	570.24	715.87	112.87
Canada Helps Fees	3.90	20.76	33.90
General & Administrative - Other	-	249.77	-
Travel & Meetings			
Travel	2,842.35	2,424.79	230.00
Conferences & Meetings	-	2,686.26	204.64
Travel & Meetings - Other	-	522.38	5,313.50
Other Expenses			
Membership Dues - Org	2,778.50	3,283.50	3,844.35
Staff Development	-	7,067.18	1,656.11
Fundraising Expenses	12,887.16	12,252.03	-
Other Expenses	996.89	3,154.29	316.03
Business Registration Fees	150.00	25.00	-
Total Expense	<u>62,197.63</u>	<u>79,647.25</u>	<u>47,068.02</u>
Net Ordinary Income	<u>-13,202.61</u>	<u>56,366.00</u>	<u>9,224.06</u>
Net Income	<u>-13,202.61</u>	<u>56,366.00</u>	<u>9,224.06</u>

* as of Oct 31

Prepared by: Jason Brogan

Reviewed by: Emily McAuley



APPENDIX C

WildResearch Committee Reports 2016



**Members' Services Committee
Report to the WildResearch Board of Directors**

2016

By Renae Mackas, WildResearch Board Representative

2016 was the fourth year that the Members' Services Committee (MSC) has been operating, and it was a successful one for us all! At the end of the year, we currently have seven members that continue to make significant contributions towards building the WildResearch community. This year, the committee made great progress with communicating to the WildResearch members and helping to facilitate membership participation in our programs and events through several mediums including:

- WildResearch e-newsletter,
- WildResearch Social Media Accounts (Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn),
- BC Nature magazine,
- WildResearch email accounts,
- Volunteer sign-up software (Better Impact),
- Thank you letters/cards to donors and supporters, and
- In person at events and programs.

Highlighted tasks completed by the Committee in 2015 included managing the WildResearch email accounts (info@wildresearch.ca and iibo@wildresearch.ca), processing of new/renewing members, managing the e-newsletter sent to our members, organizing regular social evenings, development of online resources and tools for our website, attending events and programs, and assisting with organizing the 2016 AGM and Volunteer and Membership Appreciation Party. Other ongoing projects in 2016 included:

- Soliciting new members and volunteers,
- Reporting current membership information BC Nature membership,
- Regular input to our social media accounts and looking for opportunities to improve our website and advertise our programs,
- Polling/surveying about membership satisfaction,
- Tracking MSC financials,
- Organizing WildResearch social events,
- Selling WildResearch merchandise,
- Seeking employment and volunteer content for the weekly newsletter,
- Processing membership and volunteer participants in our volunteer management software (Better Impact),
- Thanking volunteers, donors, and supporters, and
- Managing email accounts

Moving into 2017, the MSC will continue our ongoing projects, and will look to assisting the Board of Directors with additional administrative tasks associated management of the organization. We are looking forward to serving the Board of Directors, and continuing to enhance the WildResearch member experience!