

# Conservation Snapshot $\frac{2020}{2021}$



# Resilience





## Dear friends,

As I sat down to reflect on our successes and challenges over the last year, I found myself also reflecting on our shared new world. Here at CPAWS-BC, our fiscal calendar coincided almost perfectly with the changes that the pandemic brought to our lives, and it's hard to separate the two in my mind.

I could sum up the previous year with a single word: **resilience**.

The resilience of our communities has been on display right across British Columbia as we have helped one another through the challenges of recent months. Our funders, our donors, and our staff team are no exception. I am truly grateful for your support and understanding as our work shifted to a digital space, as on-the-ground work transitioned to video calls and shared documents, and as leadership took shape in new ways.

Despite these challenges and with your help, we made some significant gains for nature. Funding for nature-based programs was a key part of recovery plans from all levels of government, and our advocacy and community building is being reflected now in government policy and decision-making on conservation. I'm incredibly proud of the work that our staff team has done to shape land and water protection in BC.

This work is largely directed at building resilience in our natural world. There will be no escaping the impacts of large scale biodiversity loss, a changing climate, or the continued extraction of resources from our earth. So even as we push back against the forces of these changes, we must also find ways to help nature through them. The creation of protected areas—large and intact spaces where nature can shelter, adapt and thrive—will be crucial to the continued functioning

of our natural world. It is long, slow and hard work, and it is vitally important.

We must also remember that, just as the pandemic did not impact us all equally, the loss of nature and ecosystems does not impact us all in the same ways. The systemic oppression of Indigenous Peoples, the original stewards of these lands, continues through the devastation of their lands and waters. Rural and frontline communities, historically marginalized and oppressed peoples, and women continue to bear the weight of the overlapping crises that face us.

So while I celebrate the resilience of not only our natural world but of our team at CPAWS-BC and our extended community, including you, I am not losing sight of our goal: to build a future where resiliency is built into our systems rather than ourselves, where humans don't just survive, but thrive with and alongside nature.

On that note, I am delighted to share with you some of our successes in protecting lands and waters from our 2020-2021 year. Thank you for being a driving force behind our work.

Yours in conservation,

**Catarina Moreno**  
President, CPAWS-BC Board of Directors





# Advocate



PHOTO: PEXELS





## Creating a blueprint for BC's coast

Governments have a choice to make. They can safeguard clean air, water, and healthy habitats by creating permanent, powerful protection for lands and waters. Or they can continue to put industry and profits before people, plants, fish, and wildlife. Your support helps us get our shared conservation values and vision in front of decision-makers so that they can continue strengthening protections for nature. This is a critical piece of the conservation puzzle here in BC, and it's working.

Our Blueprint for the Coast campaign is a perfect example of how effective and collaborative advocacy works. Founded on years of marine advocacy and trusted relationships, we began working toward a new, unified marine strategy to protect the coast. Thanks to your support, we were able to meet with municipalities and First Nations governments along the coast, as well as provincial politicians from all parties. In the 2020 provincial election, each of the three main party plat-

forms made reference to creating a cohesive plan to manage the coast. And last fall, the provincial government committed to developing a coastal marine strategy!

There's still work to be done, and we're going to be there every step of the way to make sure that the process doesn't stall out now. Thank you for supporting our advocacy work to form a new approach to BC's coast, one that centres the long-term health of marine life, Indigenous knowledge, and coastal communities.

To learn more, visit:  
[cpawsbc.org/blueprint-for-the-coast](https://cpawsbc.org/blueprint-for-the-coast)





## Defending BC's provincial parks

The more people learn about the incredible diversity of life here in British Columbia, the more inspired they are by it—and the more willing they are to raise their voices in chorus to protect nature. Your support helps us build partnerships to grow our reach, so that we can share our vision for a more equitable, natural future. It also allows us to generate interest in land and water in the media, raising the profile of nature protection right across the province.

While many of us kept local this year thanks to you, we leveraged digital and print media to bring nature into the homes of British Columbians all across the province. With support from independent and community-centered reporters, we were able to spotlight conservation as an opportunity and reason for hope during a difficult year. Multiple op-eds from our leadership and staff teams, more than two dozen interviews with our

expert campaigners, countless mentions, and press releases—all combined to remind British Columbians how important it is to safeguard lands and waters.

We saw this powerful tool in action particularly when it comes to our provincial parks. As the pandemic progressed and people began to rely more on outdoor spaces to find respite, gather with loved ones, and get some exercise, the calls for better and safer access to parks gained strength. Media stories calling for investments in parks as part of a “green recovery” quickly followed, and shortly after that, governments across the country were promising to “build back better” by funding nature. This type of awareness building and media push is only possible with your support, and this year showed us how well it can work.

To learn more, visit:

[cpawsbc.org/bc-provincial-parks](https://cpawsbc.org/bc-provincial-parks)





PHOTO: PEXELS



# Action



PHOTO: SALLY LEYS



*“Not only are these ecosystems unique to the West Coast, they provide habitat for rockfish and shrimp, filter bacteria out of the water, and store carbon on the ocean floor. We need more local Howe Sounders to raise awareness of these natural jewels and call on our government to protect the few glass sponge reefs we have left.” - Nathan, CPAWS-BC Supporter*

## Protecting all glass sponge reefs in BC

The changes we all felt through the past year encouraged us to rethink how we connect to share stories, ideas, and our experiences. Making time to listen to our communities, to learn from each other, and to work together for a better future became more important than ever. And once again, you rose to the occasion.

Despite all turmoil and disruption facing each of us, our community of nature-lovers grew again this past year. More donors, supporters, and partner organizations shared their love of lands and waters with us than ever before. Thank you for raising your voices through direct action—donating, attending virtual events, writing to elected officials, sharing tweets and stories, and submitting letters to the editor—to safeguard the places that we all love.

Each of these actions show communities,

partners, decision makers, and industry groups that the public will continue to stand together to protect lands and waters. This year alone, nearly 300 letters were submitted to community and provincial newspapers by our supporters, on topics ranging from BC’s beloved but beleaguered parks to the urgent need for protection of all glass sponge reefs in Howe Sound.

To learn more, visit:  
[cpawsbc.org/glass-sponge-reefs](https://cpawsbc.org/glass-sponge-reefs)



# Financials

PHOTO: © MARKUS THOMSON - THALASSIA ENVIRONMENTAL



# Financial Picture 2020-2021

## Statement of Financial Position 2021 2020

### ASSETS

#### Current

Cash and cash equivalents (note 4)	776,417	686,918
Accounts receivable	17,152	53,006
Marketable securities	319,481	319,078
Prepaid expense	14,114	14,891
	<b>1,127,164</b>	<b>1,073,893</b>

Investment - Restricted (note 5)	96,000	96,000
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Capital assets (note 6)	3,648	6,433
	<b>1,226,812</b>	<b>1,176,326</b>

### LIABILITIES

#### Current

Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	33,939	54,554
Deferred revenue (note 7)	584,179	519,434
Current portion of obligation under capital lease	-	1,080

Deferred capital contributions (note 8)	618,118	575,068
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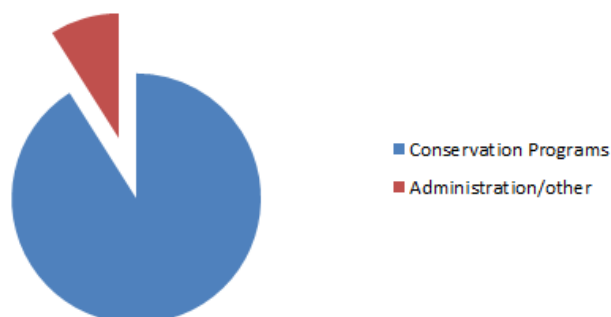
Obligation under capital lease	3,648	6,433
	<b>621,766</b>	<b>584,480</b>

### NET ASSETS

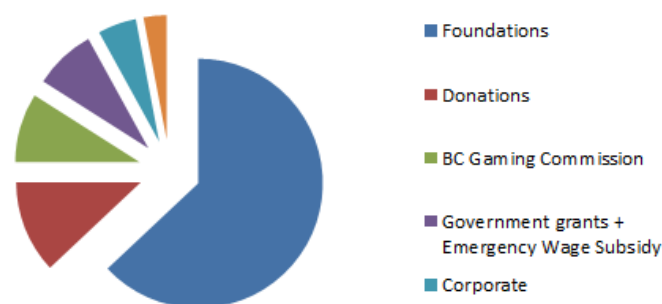
Unrestricted	274,956	270,636
Internally restricted	330,090	321,210
	<b>605,046</b>	<b>591,846</b>

<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,226,812</b>	<b>1,176,326</b>
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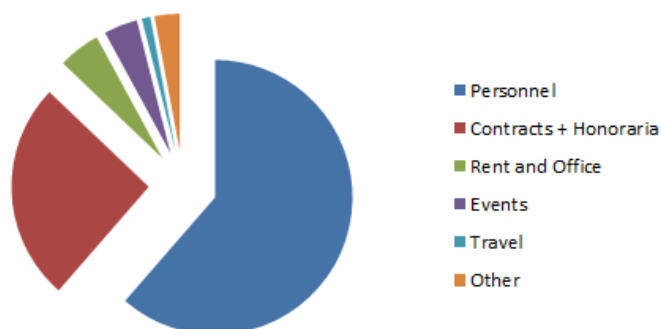
## Your gifts at work



## How CPAWS-BC is funded



## Conservation program expenditures



To learn more and view CPAWS-BC Audited Financial Statements, visit:  
[cpawsbc.org/financial-picture](http://cpawsbc.org/financial-picture)



# Thanks to your generous support

Thank you to our community of members, partners and staff, volunteers and more.

## Funding Partners

Arc'teryx  
 BC Gaming Commission  
 Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation  
 JB Doherty Family Foundation  
 Makeway Foundation  
 Sitka Foundation

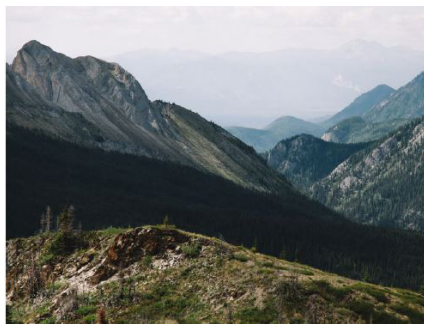
T/GEAR Foundation  
 The Conservation Alliance  
 The Pew Charitable Trust  
 Vancouver Foundation  
 Westcoast Wills & Estates  
 Wilburforce Foundation

Learn more about the lands and water we're defending together: [cpawsbc.org/campaigns](https://cpawsbc.org/campaigns)



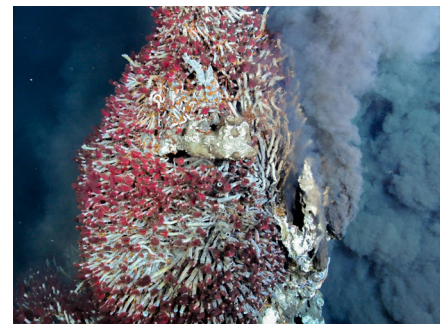
**National Park Reserve for the South Okanagan Similkameen** within Syilx Okanagan People's Territory

PHOTO: PHOTO: GRAHAM OSBORNE



**Dene K'éh Kusān** proposed Indigenous Protected Area in northern BC within ancestral Kaska Dena Territory

PHOTO: BRITNEY BERRNER CREATIVE



The **Deepsea Oasis** proposed marine protected area west of Vancouver Island within Nuuchahnulth Territory

PHOTO: OCEANS NETWORKS CANADA (CC BY-NC-SA 3.0)

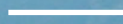


# Gratitude

PHOTO: ADAM COMBS



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