



# 2021 Annual Report



*The Cowichan Trail Stewardship Society acknowledges that we are on the unceded territory of the Cowichan Nation*

## 2021 Presidents Report

Tom Roozendaal, President

The CTSS continues to prove its relevance in the Cowichan Community. As the pandemic continued over the past year and its impact on our lives affected our spirit, outdoor recreation and community spaces became more important than ever.

As a group of dedicated volunteers the Board of Directors has done an excellent job of establishing the CTSS as a professional and quality organization. Not only overseeing the operations of trail networks on Mt. Tzouhalem, Maple Mountain and Mt. Prevost, but also making changes to governance. The board approved a new set of bylaws for the Society and set policies and procedures to guide human resources and the financial management of the organization.

Since inception of our contract with the Municipality of North Cowichan, there has been an investment of the following amounts into trail construction, which created new assets for the municipal balance sheet:

Double D	\$74,130
Phloem	\$65,832
Xylem	\$55,372

Our financial management is solid. Revenues have increased 30% over the last 3 years and we have increased our revenue from our own sources to 27% of total revenues. This is significant as we can spend our own source revenue entirely at our discretion. We prepare budgets and manage to spend all of our funding without incurring deficits. Two-thirds of our funding is directly spent on trail maintenance and construction. For financial security, our goal is to maintain three months of expenses in the bank. We have been successful with this goal.

CTSS was successful in acquiring a grant in the amount of \$14,042 from the Canada Summer Jobs Program. A crew of four youth was hired for approximately eight weeks. CTSS is grateful of the contribution and we are looking forward to hearing of the results of our 2022 application.

Our membership has grown to over 300 members and we currently have 24 Corporate members. These membership numbers begin to demonstrate the value this community places on the work of the CTSS. The goal for 2022 will be to increase this membership to 500 and establish a strong voice for advocating on behalf of the trail user community.

We said goodbye to our long time Trail Lead, Trevor Thew. During his time here at CTSS Trevor provided invaluable oversight and direction in maintaining our trails to the best quality possible. Trevor has moved on to a new and exciting career and we wish him the best.

Our Trail Crew member, Stephen Mohan stepped up to fill the position of Trail Lead. Stephen was instrumental in bringing back our volunteer programming after a long hiatus due to the pandemic. Stephen has since moved on and we look forward to seeing him on the trails enjoying his great work. Best of luck to Stephen.

Following the strategic planning session of October 2020, the board of directors focused their attention to goals identified as priorities for 2021, member insurance and branding. The CTSS has now added Accidental Death and Disability insurance for CTSS events. The Board reviewed the CTSS logo and examined if the visual still aligns with the overall goals of the organization. This process is not always an easy task to take on as a group but the Board has come together and decided on the logo as presented on our cover page to this annual report.

We are grateful of the support we receive from the business community when hosting our events. In kind contributions of prizes and swag are welcomed from our organizers and enjoyed by our participants. Local businesses are encouraged to participate as the CTSS works to create a connection to the potential economic activity of the sport tourism sector and the hiking and biking community. We encourage our membership to support the supporters of the CTSS.

It should never go without saying we are also grateful for the support and encouragement of the Municipality of North Cowichan in providing such access to our Municipal Forest Reserve. We acknowledge the partnership and funding for trail maintenance offered by the Municipality and we look forward to continuing our relationship in the years to come.

## Ladysmith Chapter Report

At the December 8, 2021 Chapter meeting the directors of the Ladysmith chapter all resigned citing a frustration over the lack of land use agreements. Over the last four years the Ladysmith Chapter has not been able to secure an agreement with Mosaic and the Cowichan Valley Regional District. Until new directors are found the Ladysmith Chapter will be discontinued.

## Special Thanks to our Corporate Members:

Cowichan Cycles	Cycle Therapy	Experience Cycles
Cycle Electric	Denise Slade, RMT	Dirt Groms Biking Ltd.
Drillwell Enterprises	Fitness Experience	Hatton Insurance Agency Ltd.
Island Tractor & Supply Ltd.	Kaiser Real Estate	Lockhart Energy Ltd.
Matthuw Ronald-Jones Realty	Next Level Riding Ltd.	Pure Fitness
Nolan Riding	Stone Pacific Contracting Ltd.	The Cycling Co.
Vezina Training Camps	Western Forest Products – Cowichan Bay Sawmill	White Pacific Services
Tall Tree Central Builders Supply	Gravity MTB	One Yellow Tree

## Thank you to our local business supporters:

Beyond the Usual \* Coffee on the Moon \* Duncan Cowichan Chamber of Commerce \* Highway  
Rentals \* Maple Bay Marina



*October 2021 Poker Run  
Fun*



## Operational Highlights:

This was an interesting year for the CTSS as Trevor Thew, long time Trail Lead, decided it was time for him to move along. Trevor was overseer of our trail networks over six years and his term here is marked with many fantastic trails for both hikers and bikers. Trevor was replaced with Stephen Mohan who joined the organization in 2020 to be the crew supervisor of the youth employment program. Because of his outstanding work and leadership, we kept him on. The natural progression was to offer Stephen the Trail Lead position after Trevor left and we were excited he accepted. Since the end of the year Stephen has also moved on to other adventures. We wish both Stephen and Trevor happiness and success in their endeavours.

The CTSS continues to be the exclusive trail maintenance contractor for hiking and biking trails within the Municipal Forest Reserve on Maple Mountain, Mt. Tzouhalem and Mt. Prevost. The crew conducts annual and semi-annual inspections on sanctioned trails and trail features. With the addition of Mt. Prevost late fall of 2021 there is pressure on the crew ensure all is well within the expanse of the trail networks. As a member driven organization we rely on our members to report issues either directly to CTSS or through Trail Forks. Over the past year the crew has been able to respond to most instances within a week.



CTSS was able to complete the rebuild of Double D with the assistance of a four-person crew through the Canada Summer Jobs program and a Forestry Crew Work experience program hosted by Vancouver Island University. Enhancements and repairs were also made to trail features such as the bridge replacements on Awesome Trail and Chicken run.



Over the past year we were also excited to bring back club events and volunteer days. Over 30 participants turned out for our Poker Run in October and we were excited to see 20 people show up for the first volunteer day in October since the beginning of the pandemic.

As COVID restrictions began to relax and we made adjustments to our programs we were excited to embark upon a new volunteer program initiated by Trail Lead Stephen Mohan. The Ride Along Trail Stewards, or RATS as they were affectionately referred to, allowed a small number of independent volunteers to ride along with the Trail Lead and help out in accomplishing important trail maintenance tasks.

In November of 2021 the CTSS began to work with the Municipality of North Cowichan to sanction the trails of Mt. Prevost. The work followed upon spring consultation with the riders of Mt. Prevost and will continue in the spirit of collaboration. For the first Prevost volunteer day CTSS partnered with the Free Radicals and hosted 42 volunteers over two days. Mr. T was completed. CTSS will continue to push forward to complete an additional four trails over coming spring and summer work season.

## 2021 FINANCIALS

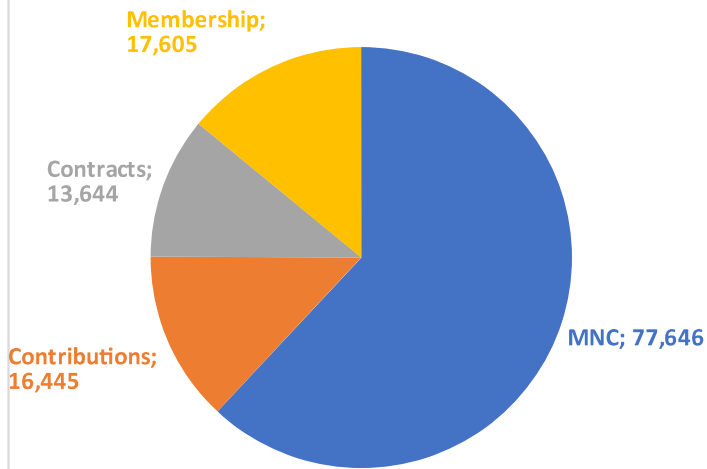
### Balance Sheet

	2021	2020
Current Assets	49,721	46,314
Equipment	2,554	2,979
Current Liabilities	7,348	6,020
Net Assets	<b>44,927</b>	<b>43,273</b>

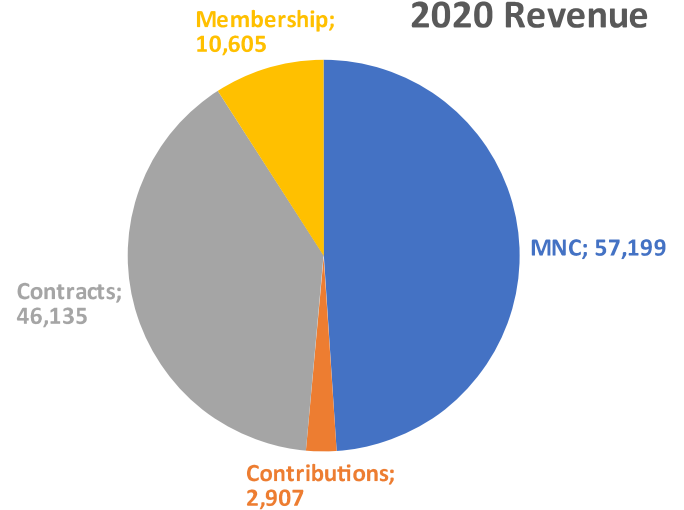
### Income Statement

Revenues	125,340	116,847
Expenses	123,686	114,623
Revenue Over Expenses	<b>1,654</b>	<b>2,223</b>

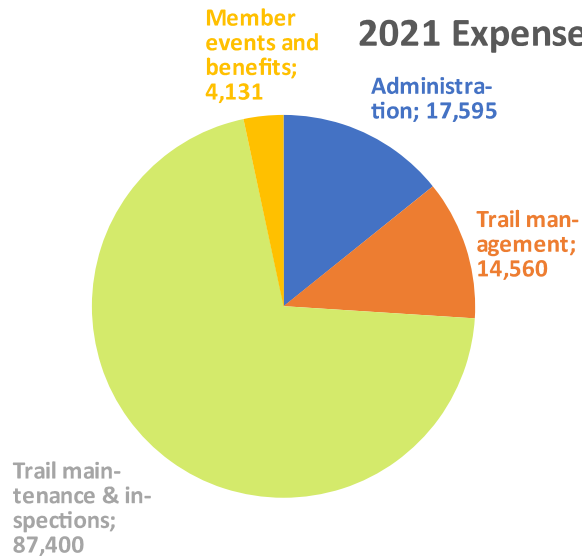
### 2021 Revenue



### 2020 Revenue



### 2021 Expenses



### 2020 Expenses

