



Sooke Region Food CHI Society “Sustaining Food Systems”

Annual General Meeting
February 9, 2017



Acknowledgements

This past year, 2016 – our tenth year of Sooke Food CHI's voluntary organization programs – was once again a most rewarding year! We want to thank our many volunteers, supporters, members, donors, and funders who help us sustain our mission and purposes.

Food CHI fosters and supports local food production and access to local foods. We support our farmers, backyard gardeners, the marketplaces and community gardens. We do this through education, workshops, special events and mentorship. Since 2007 we have formed a number of partnerships and facilitated a collaborative approach, engaging many citizens and community organizations to enhance our regional food shed and local economy.

2016 Funders and Donors

- District of Sooke
- EPCOR
- Les Monnington's Gravel Pit
- Reber Creative
- Reliable Control
- SEASOIL
- Sooke Awareness Film Night
- Sooke Garden Club
- Sooke Harbour House
- Sooke Kids Garden Club
- Sooke Region Chamber of Commerce
- Sooke Soil Landscaping
- Vancity
- Viridian Energy Co-operative
- West Coast Seeds

In Kind Support – Sooke Region

- ALM Farm
- Apple Fest volunteers, vendors & musicians
- Brendan Dueck Irrigation Services
- Butler Brothers Supplies Ltd.
- Camosun College, Horticulture School
- Cast Iron Farm
- Coastal Crunch Granola
- District of Sooke
- Edward Milne Community School (too many classes to mention)
- Food CHI Fruit Tree gleaning volunteers
- Glen's Gardening Services
- Grow-a-Row volunteers
- Herbal Tea Station
- Jenny's Fare
- Little Vienna Bakery
- Mainroad South Island Contracting Ltd.
- Reber Creative
- Seedy Saturday vendors and volunteers
- Sooke Awareness Film Night crew
- Sooke Backhoe Services Ltd.
- Sooke Community Association
- Sooke Disposal
- Sooke Fall Fair Association
- Sooke Food Bank
- Sooke Harbour House
- Sooke Home Hardware
- Sooke News Mirror
- Sooke Pocket News
- Sooke Power Supplies
- Sooke Region Museum
- Sunriver Community Garden volunteers
- Sunriver Community Orchard volunteers
- Sunriver Healing Gardens – Hilary and Glyse
- The Reading Room Bookstore and Cafe
- Transition Sooke
- Village Food Market
- West Shore Voice News
- Western Foods
- Wittich Cherry Lane stables

Front Cover: Seedy Saturday 2016



Sooke Region Food CHI Society

Who are we and what do we do?

Established in 2007, we are a registered society and voluntary non-profit organization, with over 250 members representing our different rural communities of the Sooke region – from Port Renfrew to Jordan River, Shirley, Otter Point, Sooke District and East Sooke, a population of approximately 15,000.

Our activities include:

- Promoting the local food movement through events and programs e.g. Seedy Saturday, Apple Fest and a presence at community events and fairs
- Supporting and mentoring new farmers
- Promoting the conservation of farm lands and agricultural planning
- Promoting farming as a viable economic activity
- Organizing farm and local food events
- Sponsoring community gardens
- Supporting a community orchard
- Producing food to distribute to the hungry
- Participating in development of food policies with local government
- Supporting slow food and our distinctive regional cuisine

Sooke Food CHI Board Highlights

This year we continued to work on actions from the Sooke Region Food CHI *Strategic Plan 2020*: updated goals and vision, changed governance structure to a calendar reporting system and continued developing position descriptions to ensure positive outcomes for volunteers. We also hosted ongoing events – Apple Fest, Awareness Film Night and Seedy Saturday.

Reflecting upon 10 years from the society's creation, the Food CHI Board reviewed the initial wording in our founding documents and where we are today. The proposed purpose, vision and mission statements are offered to our members for consideration and adoption at the February 9, 2017 AGM.

After a lengthy and thorough debate, Board members determined that promoting and advocating for improved community health by encouraging sustainable food sources best fit our purpose. The Board envisions everyone in the Sooke Food CHI region having access to nutritious local food from field to table.

The proposed mission statement for Food CHI to achieve the purpose and vision is to support food production and food security for all and to be involved in preparing local policy development and actual training to enable people to grow nutritious food locally.

Thank you to the many people who have donated time, energy and resources, and to those who attend our many activities. Special thanks to Food CHI's founding member, Mary Alice Johnson, for her dedication and wisdom on the board for the past nine years.

Anita Wasiuta, president, Sooke Region Food CHI Society



Food CHI Board of Directors – 2015/2016

Officers

President – Anita Wasiuta
Treasurer – Amelia Shaw
Secretary – Britton Jacob-Schram

Directors

Martin Bissig
Gerard LeBlanc
Mary Alice Johnson
(to December 2016)

Standing Committees

Sunriver Allotment Garden Council

Special Event Committees

Sooke Seedy Saturday
Apple Fest 2016

Part-time contractors supporting Food CHI initiatives and programs

- Paula McCormick – Grow-a-Row Coordinator
- Phil Rossner – Apple Festival Coordinator
- Mike McEwan – lawn maintenance for Sunriver Community Gardens and Community Orchard
- Marika Nagasaka – Seedy Saturday

Highlights

Sooke Seedy Saturday – February 27, 2016

Every February, on the last Saturday of the month, Sooke Food CHI puts on Sooke's very own Seedy Saturday in the historic 1937-built, wooden Sooke Community Hall. This event was our 7th Seedy Saturday, thanks to our many volunteers. This family-friendly event brings many folks, farmers, gardeners and vendors together. We had a sunny day with over 1100 people and over 40 vendors. Thanks to Sooke Fall Fair volunteers who offered a tasty lunch.



“Nourish Food and Community”: Farming & Film Gala Evening – April 13, 2016

Co-sponsored with Awareness Film Night, Food CHI organized a well-attended 2016 Farm and Film Gala at Sooke's Edward Milne Community School. This year's featured screening by donation, “Nourish: Food and Community” traces our relationship to food from a global perspective to personal action steps people have taken. The annual gala included local farm vendors and food producers selling produce and seeds, with tea and goodies made by the EMCS Culinary Arts students.



Communities in Bloom – July 22, 2016

Sooke Region Food CHI hosted the District of Sooke's Communities in Bloom luncheon to highlight the Sunriver Community Gardens project and Food CHI's community volunteers. Food CHI and its volunteers and donors contributed to the District receiving the highest rating of 5 Blooms. [Communities in Bloom](#) is a non-profit organization committed to fostering civic pride, environmental responsibility and beautification through community involvement. Special thanks to the volunteers for making the luncheon so very special, to Mel Hull who cooked the salmon on the open green alder fire on a hot summer day and to T'Sou-ke Nation's Shirley Alphonse who provided the Blessing at the lunch.



Apple Fest – September 25, 2016

Our third annual Apple Fest was a success amid the misty day and abundance of apples in the region. More than 500 attendees enjoyed the pie auction, kids' games, musicians, free hand-pressed apple juice, orchard info booth, and local vendors. There were many different types of apples offered for sale from the Sunriver Community Orchard as the trees mature for more fruit production. The Apple Fest is a fundraiser to sustain our orchard and other Food CHI programs. The funds from 2015 Apple Fest contributed to the newly installed solar power thanks to Viridian Energy Co-operative.



Transition Sooke Events

Transition Sooke members are avid supporters and members of Food CHI. This year Transition Sooke featured two events at the Sunriver Community Gardens.

Transition Sooke organised their yearly Reskilling Fair in the Sunriver Community Gardens in August. About 90 people participated in workshops like Fermented foods, making Kombucha, kids bike workshop, upcycled instruments and earth focused meditation. It was a sweet day of education, fun, good food and shared experiences.



In October, the Healing Garden Work & Learn Party took place in the Sunriver Gardens. Two facilitators and 14 participants took part. After a tour of the healing garden, the beds were cleaned, plants pruned and weeding was done. Participants were invited to harvest plants, seeds or cuttings to grow in their own garden.



Sunriver Community Gardens – 2380 Phillips Road, Sooke

*Sponsored by Sooke Food CHI in partnership
with the District of Sooke*

In 2009 the District asked Food CHI to develop the Sunriver Allotment garden, a 2.5 acres site, part of the old Phillips Farm. Starting in February 2010, work began. By early May close to 65 plots had been assigned and summer gardens were planted.

Thanks to the terrific community support, keen volunteers and volunteer leaders, we continue to sustain and care for this special garden. Highlights include our voluntary Grow-a-Row program that contributes thousands of pounds of fresh local food produce including apples to those in need, distributed through the Sooke Food Bank and Sooke's Child and Family Services.

SRCG 2017

As the Gardens mature, maintenance to infrastructure and maintenance is needed. We are now fundraising to redo the parking lot for better access and more parking.

The lawn maintenance at the Gardens was becoming overwhelming for volunteers as well as the need for steady repair of lawn mowers. In February 2016, the Garden Council, Community Orchard rep. and Food CHI hired a contractor to help with the general lawn maintenance when needed.

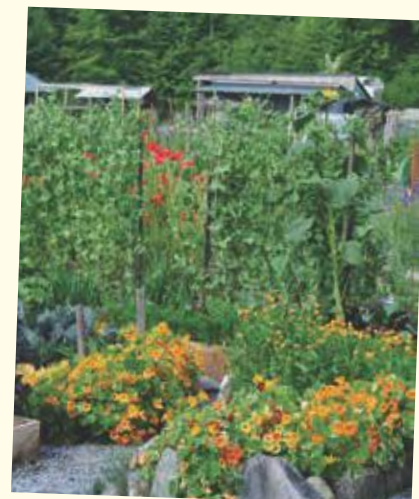
Since 2010, SRCG has grown and established itself as a feature of the community. Over the coming year, Food CHI board members plan to review the garden's current use including the size and number of Grow-a-Row areas and allotment plots. This will help to identify any future potential for continued benefits of the gardens to the users and the community.

The Community Garden features:

- Over 90 allotment plots, including 12 special raised beds
- Community food growing plots and greenhouse, Grow-a-Row program, harvest shed facility
- Healing Garden
- Social gathering picnic areas: all-weather gazebo, cob oven, fire pits, kids play areas
- Sooke Children's Garden Club beds and clubhouse

Allotment Gardens

Sunriver Allotment Garden council changed the schedule and renewal date to November 30. This date follows a calendar structure to make it easier for volunteers to manage the program and to allow for better lead in and start up times for new gardeners. The garden council is a dedicated group of allotment gardeners who assist in the management of the Allotment Gardens.



The Sunriver Community Orchard

Since 2011 the orchard has grown including the installation of a solar panel this year, with thanks to Viridian Energy Co-operative and our donors to the project. The solar panel provides light for working in the Apple Shack during the winter months and electrify our bear fence for 2017. Thanks to Glen Thelin, Kenny Jones, Larry Galbraith, Tom Trickery and Waltraud Readetzki for all their hard work and stewardship caring and nurturing this fine community orchard.

There was no waste of these fine heritage apples harvested this year. Volunteers sold specialty heritage apples at the Apple Fest 2016 and over 300 pounds of orchard apples were donated to the Food Bank and other helping agencies. This fall five more apple trees were planted and two more pear trees.



The Community Orchard area includes:

- Various fruit trees, including many heritage types
- Apple shack learning centre
- Orchard tool shed
- Pia's Memorial Garden & root cellar
- Native wetlands garden and pond

SOOKE REGION FOOD CHI SOCIETY

Balance Sheet

as at December 31, 2016

	Food CHI General Fund	Projects Program Fund	Sunriver Community Garden Fund	Total
Current Assets				
Petty Cash	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Coast Capital Chequing 100	22,757.15			22,757.15
Coast Capital Shares	5.00			5.00
Allotment Chequing Coast Capital 102				0.00
Orchard Chequing Coast Capital 103				0.00
Sk Food Chi Savings Coast Capital 101				
Vancity Chequing		0.53		0.53
Vancity Shares			22.90	22.90
Mountain Equipment Co-op Shares	5.00			5.00
	22,767.15	0.53	22.90	22,790.58
Grants Receivable				0.00
Accounts Receivable				0.00
	22,767.15	0.53	22.90	22,790.58
Investments				
Irrigation System			3,877.31	3,877.31
Equipment			400.00	400.00
Fence/Gates/Signs			7,055.00	7,055.00
Shed			2,317.20	2,317.20
Gazebo			13,401.65	13,401.65
Outhouse			1,310.23	1,310.23
Greenhouse			2,604.00	2,604.00
Shed			3,031.09	3,031.09
Apple Shack			2,467.69	2,467.69
Harvest Shed			750.38	750.38
KW Off-grid Solar PV			1,960.18	1,960.18
Accumulated Amortization			-16,609.06	-16,609.06
	0.00	0.00	22,565.67	22,565.67
Total Assets	22,767.15	0.53	22,588.57	45,356.25
Current Liabilities				
Accounts Payable	0.00	0.00	642.15	642.15
Deferred Revenue	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Fund Balances				
Externally Restricted Funds				0.00
Invested in Capital Assets			22,565.67	22,565.67
Unrestricted Funds	22,767.15	0.53	-619.25	22,148.43
	22,767.15	0.53	22,588.57	45,356.25
Total Liabilities and Fund Balances	22,767.15	0.53	22,588.57	45,356.25

Thank you to our 2016 funding partners

Thank you to our 2016 funding partners for events and programs:

District of Sooke, Sooke Community Arts Council, Sooke Fall Fair Association, BC Hydro and EPCOR.

SOOKE REGION FOOD CHI SOCIETY
Income Statement
for the period ending December 31, 2016

	Food CHI General Fund	Projects Program Fund	Sunriver Community Garden Fund	Total
Revenues				
Miscellaneous		513.78		513.78
Grants Grow-a-Row/Orchard				0.00
Memberships/Fees				0.00
Food Farm Guide				0.00
Plot Fees			5,955.00	5,955.00
Donations				0.00
Interest	1.46			1.46
Seedy Saturday				0.00
Orchard				0.00
Farm Tour/Harvest				0.00
Farmer 2 Farmer Grant				0.00
Apple Fest		1,879.41		1,879.41
Total Revenues	<u>1.46</u>	<u>2,393.19</u>	<u>5,955.00</u>	<u>8,349.65</u>
Expenses				
Food CHI Administration	1,085.70			1,085.70
Food Systems, Farmer to Farmer				0.00
Food Systems, Food Guide				0.00
Food Systems, Gleaning				0.00
Events - Annual - Apple Fest		909.29		909.29
Events - Farm Tour				0.00
Events - General		426.34		426.34
Events - Seedy Saturday				0.00
Sunriver Gardens			3,821.90	3,821.90
Mentorship Program				0.00
Amortization				0.00
Total Expenses	<u>1,085.70</u>	<u>1,335.63</u>	<u>3,821.90</u>	<u>6,243.23</u>
Excess of Revenue over Expenses	<u>-1,084.24</u>	<u>1,057.56</u>	<u>2,133.10</u>	<u>2,106.42</u>

SOOKE REGION FOOD CHI SOCIETY

Investments in Capital Assets

	Cost	Accumulated Amortization	2016 Net Book Value
Irrigation System	3877.31	1789.73	2087.58
Equipment	400.00	219.31	180.69
Fence/Gates/Signs	7055.00	3097.39	3561.85
Shed	2317.20	1147.32	1169.88
Gazebo	13401.65	6635.57	6766.08
Outhouse	1310.23	648.73	661.50
Greenhouse	2604.00	890.77	1713.23
Shed	3031.09	852.92	2178.17
Apple Shack	2467.69	758.59	1709.10
Harvest Shed	750.38	172.96	577.42
KW Off-grid Solar PV	1960.18	490.05	1470.13
	39174.73	16703.34	22075.63

Sooke Region Food CHI Society Financial Statements For Fiscal Year: September 1, 2015 to August 31, 2016 And for September 1, 2016 to December 31, 2016

Sooke Region Food CHI Society Board Comments:

- 1 Sooke Region Food CHI Society functions on a fiscal year, from September 1 to August 31. Many of our programs are calendar in nature such as the Grow-a-Row program which runs from April to October. Such funds are carried over to the next fiscal year. The Board decided to restructure to a calendar year to better reflect its activities resulting in two sets of financial statements for this year.
- 2 GST recoverable was removed. We will be revisiting this in 2018 to determine if there is any GST credit available to Sooke Region Food CHI Society.
- 3 We received a grant from Vancity in the amount of \$8,000 for our Mentorship Program in 2015. The program ended earlier than anticipated. The outstanding grant funds of \$5,498.36 shown on the August 31, 2015 Balance Sheet were returned to Vancity after our year end of August 31, 2015 and shows on the August 31, 2016 Income Statement.
- 4 The Balance Sheet shows "Unrestricted Funds." The majority of our funds are targeted project/program funds – e.g. 2015/16 Community Orchard, farm support, Seedy Saturday events.
- 5 The Sunriver Community Garden Fund shown on the Income Statement as expenses includes expenses for the Allotment Gardens, Community Orchard, Grow-a-Row along with other minor expenses for the Sunriver Community Garden proper.

SOOKE REGION FOOD CHI SOCIETY
Balance Sheet
as at August 31, 2016

	Food CHI General Fund	Projects Program Fund	Sunriver Community Garden Fund	Total
Current Assets				
Petty Cash	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Coast Capital Chequing 100	12,473.12			12,473.12
Coast Capital Shares	5.00			5.00
Allotment Chequing Coast Capital 102			1,530.20	1,530.20
Orchard Chequing Coast Capital 103			7,495.18	7,495.18
Sk Food Chi Savings Coast Capital 101	135.05			
Vancity Chequing		0.53		0.53
Vancity Shares			22.90	22.90
Mountain Equipment Co-op Shares	5.00			5.00
	12,618.17	0.53	9,048.28	21,531.93
Grants Receivable				0.00
Accounts Receivable				0.00
	12,618.17	0.53	9,048.28	21,666.98
Investments				
Irrigation System			3,877.31	3,877.31
Equipment			400.00	400.00
Fence/Gates/Signs			7,055.00	7,055.00
Shed			2,317.20	2,317.20
Gazebo			13,401.65	13,401.65
Outhouse			1,310.23	1,310.23
Greenhouse			2,604.00	2,604.00
Shed			3,031.09	3,031.09
Apple Shack			2,467.69	2,467.69
Harvest Shed			750.38	750.38
KW Off-grid Solar PV			1960.18	1,960.18
Accumulated Amortization			-16,609.06	-16,609.06
	0.00	0.00	22,565.67	22,565.67
Total Assets	12,618.17	0.53	31,613.95	44,232.65
Current Liabilities				
Accounts Payable	0.00	0.00	1,653.33	1,653.33
	0.00	0.00	1,653.33	1,653.33
Deferred Revenue	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Fund Balances				
Externally Restricted Funds				0.00
Invested in Capital Assets			22,565.67	22,565.67
Unrestricted Funds	12,618.17	0.53	7,394.95	20,013.65
	12,618.17	0.53	31,613.95	44,232.65
Total Liabilities and Fund Balances	12,618.17	0.53	31,613.95	44,232.65

SOOKE REGION FOOD CHI SOCIETY
Income Statement
for the period ending August 31, 2016

	Food CHI General Fund	Projects Program Fund	Sunriver Community Garden Fund	Total
Revenues				
Miscellaneous	1,109.30			1,109.30
Grants Grow-a-Row/Orchard			8,800.00	8,800.00
Memberships/Fees	139.80			139.80
Food Farm Guide		110.00		110.00
Plot Fees			5,665.00	5,665.00
Donations	36.00			36.00
Interest	9.02			9.02
Seedy Saturday		5,379.87		5,379.87
Orchard			6,680.34	6,680.34
Farm Tour/Harvest				0.00
Farmer 2 Farmer Grant				0.00
Mentorship Program		-5,498.81		-5,498.81
Total Revenues	1,294.12	-8.94	14,465.00	22,430.52
Expenses				
Food CHI Administration	2,558.40			2,558.40
Food Systems, Farmer to Farmer		209.88		209.88
Food Systems, Food Guide				0.00
Food Systems, Gleaning		100.96		100.96
Events - Annual - Apple Fest				0.00
Events - Farm Tour		50.00		
Events - General		406.90		406.90
Events - Seedy Saturday		2,123.39		2,123.39
Sunriver Gardens			16,363.11	16,363.11
Mentorship Program				
Amortization			2,289.50	2,289.50
Total Expenses	2,558.40	2,891.13	18,652.61	24,102.14
Excess of Revenue over Expenses	-1,264.28	-2,900.07	-4,187.61	-1,671.62

SOOKE REGION FOOD CHI SOCIETY

Investments in Capital Assets

	Cost	Accumulated Amortization	2016 Net Book Value
Irrigation System	3877.31	1789.73	2087.58
Equipment	400.00	219.31	180.69
Fence/Gates/Signs	7055.00	3097.39	3561.85
Shed	2317.20	1147.32	1169.88
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	<u>39174.73</u>	<u>16703.34</u>	<u>22075.63</u>

