

YOUTH AND ECOLOGICAL RESTORATION PROGRAM

ANNUAL REPORT

For the Period of April 1, 2015 to March 31, 2016

Completed on July 8, 2016



PROGRAM FUNDED BY:

**BRITISH COLUMBIA
MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY
DEVELOPMENT**

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1. INTRODUCTION

The Youth and Ecological Restoration Program (YER) is devoted to nurturing vulnerable youth through involving them in a positive and resilient environmental program. Based in the Comox Valley, YER has been ongoing since 2004, and connects youth with employment training and one on one support. They are engaged with a combination of the ecological and societal aspects of our community, broadening their worldviews and taking them beyond their personal boundaries.

Successful completion of the first and second phases of YER has the youth presenting their experiences to community members; and in the third phase they teach younger children. As educators, the youth feel a sense of accomplishment and empowerment through sharing their knowledge with others. They are then acknowledged and rewarded with a certificate, letter of reference and stipend for their individual contributions.

This YER report is a record of the fiscal year of April 2015 to March 2016, when twenty five youth were involved with the program (Table 1). YER has established connections with one hundred and forty two groups via referral agencies, environmental work placements and public speaking engagements (Appendix A). When interviewed about their YER experiences, the youth consistently articulate an enhanced sense of self worth and confidence by working with people on projects that benefit our entire community.

2. PROGRESS AND OUTCOMES

During 2015 and 2016, YER had twenty five youth participate in three phases of the program. Community partnerships continue to be the essence of YER success as these groups provide places for the youth to work and share their newly acquired knowledge. Program promotion keeps YER current and available to the public. The youth and caregiver quotes express the sentiments of YER from interviews performed to bring forward their voices and observations.

Youth Participant Summary

From April 2015 to March 2016, twenty-five youth participated in YER; twenty in Phase I (YERI), four in Phase II (YERII) and one in Phase III (YERIII) (Table 1). Fourteen boys and six girls were in YERI; three boys and one girl in YERII; and one girl was in YERIII (Table 1). Nineteen youth completed YERI and one was incomplete; four youth completed YERII; and one completed YERIII (Table 1a). There is now an overall 93% completion for YERI; and 100% completion for YERII and YERIII (Table 1f).

The twenty-five youth were referred to YER by five groups: Comox Valley School District #71 referred thirteen; MCFD sent seven; Community Justice Centre had two; Vancouver Island Health Authority dispatched two; and John Howard Society referred one youth (Table 1b).

Many youth referred to YER are interconnected with other youth and family services in our community. Of the twenty five youth, twenty-three attended School District #71; sixteen were associated with The Linc; fourteen with MCFD; and eight with John Howard Society (Table 1c).

YERI

Six organizations offered employment opportunities for twenty YERI youth. Mountianaire Avian Rescue Society and Oyster River Enhancement Society both worked with nineteen; and Millard Piercy Watershed Stewards had seventeen; Tsolum River Restoration Society and Morrison Creek Streamkeepers employed eight youth; and Comox Valley Nature had one (Table 1d).

There were nineteen YERI youth that completed the program with a presentation. Thirteen youth did their speeches at Comox Valley schools; five were at Glacier View Learning Centre; two at Lake Trail Secondary School; and the remaining six youth addressed other schools in the district (Table 1e). Five youth went to a small assisted living senior's facility called Cummings Home, where we join the elders for tea and conversation after the presentation (Table 1e). One youth did a speech for MCFD, Youth Probation Services (Table 1e).

YERII

Two YERII projects were conducted in 2015, which involved training and experience in science based data collection to document the ecology of local parks. Comox Valley Regional District (CVRD) contributes funding to hire a Registered Professional Biologist who is responsible for guiding the field work and producing a report. For each YERII project, two youth work together with the biologist and YER coordinator to advance collaboration and communication skills. The five day format is three days of data collection, and two days to prepare for and lead a public tour.

The first YERII project was done from July 6 to 10, 2015 to assess fish habitat and populations in CVRD, Bear Creek Nature Park with support from Oyster River Enhancement Society. We set up nets in Channel One to cordon off a section and then placed minnow traps to catch a portion of the fish using the Marked Recapture Method. More information can be found on the YER website at: <http://youthecology.ca/oyster-river-channel-one-report-2015/>. The project concluded with the two youth leading a public tour that was attended by sixteen people (Table 1d and 1e).

The second YERII project was accomplished August 16 to 20, 2015 to establish an ecological inventory baseline in CVRD, Headquarters Townsite Park. Two vegetation plots were measured, and plant and tree species identified for relative percentages and abundance. The YER report is at: <http://youthecology.ca/headquarters-townsite-park-report-2015/>. Two youth instructed an expedition of community members that came to learn about this local park; there were a record number of thirty-nine people in attendance (Table 1d and 1e).

YERIII

The initial YERIII project went from April 8 to May 15, 2015 with Comox Valley Project Watershed Society (CVPW) to restore salt marsh grass ecosystems in the Courtenay River Estuary. One youth was trained in salt marsh grass ecosystems and restoration methods, and then helped teach planting techniques to four groups of one hundred and forty Royston Elementary School children (Table 1d and 1e). On completion of YERIII, the youth also gave CVPW, Estuary Working Group a power point presentation about the employment experience.

YERIII is more advanced with an increased teaching responsibility; a payment of \$200.00, and a personalized certificate and letter of reference are awarded. Funds for the YERIII project were made available by CVPW; UNIFOR Local 3019; and Comox Valley Red Tent (Table 2). This first YERIII was successful, but funds are not available for subsequent years, so there are no plans for another YERIII project.

Community Partnerships

Establishing and maintaining connections with community groups sustains a YER public profile in the Comox Valley, which helps to provide youth with locations to work and present their knowledge. A total of one hundred and forty two groups have had associations with YER, some briefly and others since its inception in 2004 (Appendix A). While there are thirty environmental groups (Appendix A), five of those have consistently employed youth every year (Table 1d).

One of the newest places for youth giving presentations is Cummings Home, a seniors assisted living facility (Table 1e). Over the past two years seven youth have given presentations there; five this year (Table 1e) and two last year. Every time we go, there is an invitation to share tea and cookies, which includes a positive exchange between the elders and the youth. This kind of intergenerational exchange occurs with many of the environmental group volunteers as well.

Program Promotion

YER program promotion continues with articles in the Comox Valley Echo and Comox Valley Record to advertise the two youth led YERII public tours in July and August 2015. Social media is also used to advertise YER public events; Facebook pages are set up for the community tours and seem to have good response. CVRD also posts the YERII tours on their Facebook page.

Oyster River Enhancement Society had a YER piece in their annual newsletter. Comox Valley Project Watershed Society had an article in the April 2015 Comox Valley Record describing the salt marsh habitat restoration involving the YERIII youth. YER website went through some changes and upgrades (www.youthecology.ca).

YER Youth Quotes

Interviewing the youth gives an invaluable outlook, through their eyes, on how the program is working. Excerpts from the experiences of the YERI, YERII and YERIII youth are below.

YERI Quotes

GOAL #1: BUILDING HEALTHY COMMUNITY RELATIONSHIPS

Cooperation, Support and Compassion; Positive Role Models and Mentoring; Increased Community Capacity and Caring

- This was an interesting experience and a good sense of work. All the volunteering people showed me a good sense of community. All the guys out at the hatchery were all volunteers and that shows a sign of community helping out. I thought it was cool to see how involved other people are with volunteering. (*YERI Participant #267*)
- In this program it helped me learn about our ecosystem and what it contains. I thought that it's important to learn about this because our Earth has a lot of cool things to teach us. It was good because I met new people. You got to experience different things. Each place has its own way of doing things. (*YERI Participant #276*)

GOAL #2: GAINING VALUED WORK EXPERIENCE

Data Collection Methods; Working with Tools; Worksite Safety; Teamwork; Good Work Ethics

- I learned the people who take the data and put it into the system trust you. You have to be 100% sure of yourself in any decision that you make for collecting data. Just be confident in yourself and your ability to do stuff. (*YERI Participant #266*)
- Just to show future employers I have experienced physical work and also observation and I can be committed to something. Showing people around me, like my Mom, when I say something I will do it and I can be helpful in my community. I liked the best just kind of talking. (*YERI Participant #277*)

GOAL #3: IMPROVING ECOLOGICAL KNOWLEDGE

Ecosystem Cycles and Interconnections; Identification Techniques for Plants, Animals and Fish; Understanding Environmental Impacts

- Another important part of our wildlife in the valley I got to learn about during the program is our local heron and how we are affecting them. During low tide when they come to the beaches to eat, people are unaware of how walking their dogs are keeping the heron from being there because the dogs chase them away. They are putting up signs at places where the heron go to collect food so that people can be aware to keep their dogs on leash to protect the already blue listed vulnerable heron. (*YERI Participant #273*)
- All the things I helped with helped them to help the community and ecosystems. It helped me understand the ecosystem and what is going on around my community to help the ecosystem. It was fun. They were really enthusiastic, so that made it good. They have their heads together and they were organized and knew how to come together with a plan. (*YERI Participant #274*)

GOAL #4: INCREASING PERSONAL AND SOCIAL SKILLS

Meaningful Participation and Empowerment; Commitment, Respect and Responsibility; Patience and Endurance; Accomplishment, Self-confidence and Success

- It feels good because if I don't complete something I feel like a deep hole inside, but if I complete something I feel free. I learned that I can be useful again and I learned that I can do things that I thought I couldn't do. (*YERI Participant #265*)
- I learned to be with myself. I was able to find myself through your program. I was able to disconnect from everything. I wasn't focused on the everyday things. I was more focused on nature and I was a bit more focused on me and being in nature because that is what I enjoy. I wasn't focused on the new smart phones and who has what. It gets really stupid after awhile. (*YERI Participant #268*)

GOAL #5: ENHANCING COMMUNICATION SKILLS

Public Speaking and Leadership; Active Listening and Engagement; Interpersonal Relationships

- It was exciting to tell those people about so many different things and they were learning different things and asking me questions. It was fun; it's amazing that I have done so much in so little time. I can do so much more if I just commit to it. (*YERI Participant #271*)
- It was good. It was really fun. It was fun because of speaking with a group. I feel good. I felt like I'm helping the world. I just feel like I am purposing something for the community. I learned about myself, I felt confident. I learned it was an interesting experience. (*YERI Participant #275*)

YERII Youth Quotes

- I learned being better at speaking up when I'm talking out loud at a presentation. I like being the leader. I felt like the boss leading them where to go and what to do and telling them about the place we had been and the things we've done. It felt like I was the biggest person of all time. (*YERII Participant #29-264*)
- If you do it together, it gets done faster. Others helped me by teaching me how to read things and do them properly. I helped others by sticking with them and helping them when they get stuck. (*YERII Participant #39-265*)
- Someone else could say that this is the number I got, too, so it's probably the right number; it is a good thing to have someone else back them up. I think I helped people learn to identify plants and identify some species that were hard to see and pick out and identify. Other people helped me to keep steady and keep going and push through the last day. (*YERII Participant #31-251*)

- Communication is key if you are working in a group. We all kind of bonded together to do teamwork by communicating and sharing how we were feeling and asking each other questions and asking for help. Working with other people will be easier because of the communication we did during the week. That helped me with the presentation skills and talking to an audience because there was a large amount of people. I learned to not shut down and non stop talking. The presentation gave me that confidence boost, like I can do this. (*YERII Participant #32-255*)

YERIII Youth Quote

- I learned to keep a positive attitude and don't let things get me down. I'd like to thank you forever for thinking of me to be a part of this. It felt really good because I was teaching a new generation and I was teaching kids and they will remember and maybe grow up to be a biologist. (*YERIII Participant #1-23-229*)

YER Caregiver Quotes

Parents and caregivers of the youth are interviewed for YER feedback and comments regarding their youths' participation in the program. Their words ring with pride in the accomplishments and successes of these young people. Below are quotes from YERI, YERII and YERIII youth caregivers.

YERI Caregiver Quotes

- I thought it was probably the best program for her at this time, for her social anxiety. It couldn't have been a better choice for a work experience. This program, you introduced her slowly. It was wonderful, it just built her confidence. I just get so excited to see that little spark in her eye again. (*YERI Participant #262*)
- I think it went really well. He wants to do it again, he was sad it was over. He was more excited to do this than go to school. He's always struggled with his reading and printing and math. I think it is an awesome experience for kids. Take the kids who aren't learning the normal way and do things like this, do more hands on. (*YERI Participant #272*)
- The presentation itself was great because he got to do it with an old teacher who really understands him. He is starting to explore more future goals with career possibility related to ecological work. It's given him more awareness with possibilities. It has helped him with self confidence. He did such a good job. I couldn't believe that he only talked with you that one time. It really speaks to how present and engaged you were when you were working with him. You are a warm, kind person. He had that structure and you held his feet to the fire, while being warm and caring. He is genuinely a responsible person. There was a change around accountability and responsibility that was reinforced. (*YERI Participant #273*)
- I believe that he saw himself as a contributor and showed signs of empowerment. He became more engaged through the process. In his disability he gets insular and by being out in the world and contributing it brought him out and gave him an opportunity to share his thoughts, knowledge and ideas. That in itself is empowering. He feels valued. It sounds like you did fabulous. It takes time to connect and relax and draw him out. (*YERI Participant #275*)

YERII Caregiver Quotes

- I think it's an excellent experience for any child to be able to be in this program. It helped him to bring him back to himself because the internet and all that crap gets in the way. He's also been able to make better day to day decisions that are more soulful to himself. If he doesn't really want to do something now he doesn't. He grew. (*YERII Participant #29-264*)

- I think it was great, she totally loved it. She was interested in it and she kept telling me when she came home. She had energy, which was great to see. Sometimes when she is down she will sleep for days. She was up early and did things around the house and when she came home, which was not normal for her. It was because she had something for her that was a goal, she was like I can do this; I can complete this. I loved that it lifted her spirit. (*YERII Participant #30-265*)
- It was good. It was hard for him, anything with more focused tasks. He will eventually be in the field and he needs to know it's not all fun and games. It was nice to see them using specialized tools and something they would never encounter with regular schooling. (*YERII Participant #31-251*)
- I loved the program; it's good for any kid to get into. It's a huge learning and experience for different things. It taught him a little bit more; it seemed to wind him down a bit. I know he thoroughly enjoyed going. The majority of the summer he didn't want to get out of bed. When he was with you he was up early and ready to go out the door. I wish he did that for school. (*YERII Participant #32-255*)

YERIII Caregiver Quote

- It gave her a good opportunity to show what she knows and relate to younger kids. It made her feel very special and important to be chosen to do three phases. Her maturity level has increased; her ease of speaking in front of an audience has increased. For her to be able to do that at sixteen is pretty incredible. (*YERIII Participant #1-23-229*)

3. BUDGET

YER Budget for April 1, 2015 and March 31, 2016

Details of the annual YER budget are given in Table 2 for April 2015 to March 2016. Revenue of \$39,540.04 came from: MCFD \$35,000.04; Comox Valley Regional District \$2,500.00; Comox Valley Project Watershed Society \$1,500.00; UNIFOR Local 3019 \$500.00; and Comox Valley Red Tent \$40.00.

Other donations included training and equipment costs from ecological restoration groups for \$2,000.00; and \$3,500.00 was contributed by the YER Coordinator to prepare the YER Ten Year Review report (<http://youthecology.ca/yer-ten-year-review/>).

This list gives details of YER 2015/2016 expenses of \$39,540.04:

- **Professional fees** included fees, administration costs and program evaluation for \$29,015.66; and biologist fees were \$2,500.00.
- **Honouraria** for youth participants was \$1,250.00: \$50.00 each for twenty-two youth; one youth returned the \$50.00; and \$200.00 for the one YERIII youth.
- **Program Promotion** was \$850.50 for website updates and maintenance.
- **Transportation** costs were calculated at \$.50/kilometre for a total of \$3,873.50.
- **Supplies** of \$1,643.87 included office, lunches and materials required for YER work.
- **Miscellaneous expenses** in the amount of \$406.51 were: \$179.20 for educational materials; \$177.31 for bank charges; \$50.00 for Oyster River Enhancement Society.
- **Other Contributions** were \$2,000.00 for YER in-kind training, materials and support from community members; and a \$3,500.00 donation for the YER Ten Year Review Report.

4. SUMMARY

Since its inception in 2004, the Youth and Ecological Restoration Program (YER) has evolved into a resilient community program. The youth gain employment opportunities and experiences with community environmental groups. They interact with and mature in their interpersonal relationships with people who volunteer for these organizations, and complete YER with a speech. The success of the program is reflected in the ninety-three per cent completion rate for YERI and one hundred per cent completion for YERII and YERIII (Table 1f).

From April 2015 to March 2016, YER engaged twenty-five at risk youth in the Comox Valley. The job skills and work ethics learned through YER assist in preparing youth for their adult lives. It is an honour to witness as they grow and learn through the three phases of the program. There were twenty youth involved with YERI; four in YERII; and one with the initial YERIII. One YERI youth was incomplete, and all others completed the program (Table 1a).

In YERI, youth work with different groups conducting ecological restoration work in the Comox Valley. Five groups that have consistently accepted the youth are: Mountianaire Avian Rescue Society; Oyster River Enhancement Society; Millard Piercy Watershed Stewards; Tsolum River Restoration Society and Morrison Creek Streamkeepers (Table 1d). The mandatory presentation occurred at various schools, a senior's assisted living facility and with Ministry of Children and Family Development (Table 1e).

Two YERII projects were supported by Comox Valley Regional District for a biologist to oversee ecological inventory projects. In Bear Creek Nature Park, we applied fish population and habitat survey methods. At Headquarters Townsite Park, we mapped tree and plant species in vegetation plots. The youth escort public tours that contribute to the knowledge of our local parks. Bear Creek had sixteen people; and Headquarters had a record number of thirty-nine (Table 1d and 1e).

The first YERIII project occurred through Comox Valley Project Watershed Society in the Courtenay River Estuary. One youth assisted with instruction of one hundred and forty Royston Elementary School kids on the importance of salt marsh grass habitat and planting methods. This youth also gave a power point presentation to Project Watershed as YERIII completion (Table 1d and 1e). There are currently no funds available for another YERIII project.

YER has been an advantage for the youth participants and community members with whom they interact, particularly the intergenerational exchange. The combination of one on one support and connection with the broader community allows the youth to feel embraced and supported. Words from interviews with the youth and their caregivers include being valued, committed, engaged, accountable, empowered, confident, excited, responsible, inspired and motivated. Endorsement of YER comes through in the power of their voices.

**TABLE 1: YOUTH AND ECOLOGICAL RESTORATION PROGRAM (YER)
YOUTH PARTICIPANT SUMMARY TABLE FOR APRIL 1, 2015 TO MARCH 31, 2016.**

YER for Comox Valley vulnerable youth funded by BC, Ministry of Children and Family Development (MCFD). YERI had 20 youth - 6 girls and 13 boys; YERII had 4 youth - 1 girl and 3 boys; YERIII had 1 youth - 1 girl. YERII and YERIII numbering: YERIII is first, YERII second and YERI is last.

Table 1a: YER COMPLETION YERI is 20 hours; YERII and YERIII are 25 hours.	YOUTH TOTALS
YERI Complete: Participant # 258, 259, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275, 276, 277	19
YERII Complete: # 29-264, 30-265, 31-251, 32-255	4
YERIII Complete: # 1-23-229	1
YERI Incomplete: # 260	1
TOTAL 485 WORK EXPERIENCE HOURS	25

Table 1b: YOUTH ORGANIZATION REFERRALS
YERI and YERII participants were referred by six agencies.

CV School District # 71: # 258, 261, 264, 265, 266, 268, 269, 270, 272, 274 29-264, 30-265, 32-255	13
Glacier View Learning Centre: Bridgeway # 265, 270, 274, 30-265 Key Program: # 264, 266, 29-264 Counsellor: # 258	
Lake Trail Middle School: # 261, 268, 269, 32-255 Cumberland Community School: # 272	
MCFD: # 259, 262, 263, 267, 271, 275, 1-23-229	7
Over Twelve Team # 271 Probation Services: # 259, 263 Mental Health: # 262, 267, 275 Foster Parent: # 1-23-229	
Vancouver Island Health Authority: # 260, 31-251	2
Comox Valley Community Justice Centre: # 273, 277	2
John Howard Society: # 276	1
TOTAL 5 YOUTH REFERRAL ORGANIZATIONS	25

Table 1c: YOUTH ORGANIZATION INTERCONNECTIONS
YERI, YERII and YERIII participants interconnect with other Comox Valley services.

SD #71: # 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 264, 265, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 274, 275, 276, 277, 29-264, 30-265, 31-251, 32-255, 1-23-229	23
The Linc: # 258, 260, 263, 264, 266, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 276, 277, 29-264, 32-255, 1-23-229	16
MCFD: # 258, 259, 262, 263, 265, 269, 270, 271, 273, 274, 275, 30-265, 31-251, 1-23-229	14
John Howard Society: # 258, 259, 263, 268, 269, 270, 276, 30-265	8
CV School District 71 Counselling Services: # 262, 264, 266, 268, 269, 275, 277, 29-264	8
Comox Valley Boys and Girls Club: # 263, 273, 277, 30-265	4
Comox Valley Community Justice Centre: # 259, 268, 273, 277	4
Pacific Therapy: # 260, 267, 273, 1-23-229	4
Comox Valley Family Services: # 269, 271, 272	3
Counseling - Source Unknown: # 258, 259, 261	3
Vancouver Island Health Authority: # 260, 31-251, 1-23-229	3
Comox Valley Transition Society: # 274	1
Wachaiy Friendship Centre: # 1-23-229	1
TOTAL 13 YOUTH ORGANIZATION INTERCONNECTIONS	

**TABLE 1 (Cont.): YOUTH AND ECOLOGICAL RESTORATION PROGRAM (YER)
YOUTH PARTICIPANT SUMMARY TABLE FOR APRIL 1, 2015 TO MARCH 31, 2016.**

Table 1d: ECOLOGICAL RESTORATION ORGANIZATIONS

YERI work events were attended by 936 community members.

YERII projects have two youth and two adults; YERIII youth train younger children.

	YOUTH TOTALS
YERI Projects had youth participate with the following organizations:	
Mountaineer Avian Rescue Society: # 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275, 276	19
Oyster River Enhancement Society: # 258, 259, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275, 276, 277	19
Millard/Piercy Watershed Stewards: # 258, 259, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 267, 269, 270, 271, 272, 274, 275, 276, 277	17
Tsolum River Restoration Society: # 258, 259, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 277	8
Morrison Creek Streamkeepers: # 268, 269, 270, 272, 273, 274, 275, 277	8
Comox Valley Nature: # 277	1
YERII Projects:	
Comox Valley Regional District, Bear Creek Nature Park: # 29-264, 30-265	2
Comox Valley Regional District, Headquarters Townsite Park: # 31-251, 32-255	2
YERIII Project: Comox Valley Project Watershed Society: # 1-23-229	1
TOTAL 8 ORGANIZATIONS	

Table 1e: COMMUNITY PRESENTATION LOCATIONS

YERI youth give a presentation; YERII youth guide a public tour; YERIII teach younger children.

School District # 71: # 258, 259, 261, 262, 265, 266, 268, 270, 272, 273, 274, 275, 277	13
Glacier View Learning Centre: # 265, 266, 270, 274, 277	
Bridgeway: # 265, 270, 274 Key: # 266 Senior Alternate: # 277	
Lake Trail Secondary School, Youth and Family Support: # 261, 268	
Ecole Puntledge Park Elementary School, Grade 3: # 259	
Ecole Puntledge Park Elementary School, Grade 6/7: # 273	
GP Vanier Secondary School, Little Friends Day Care: # 262	
Cumberland Community School, Grade 1/2: # 272	
Mark R. Isfeld Secondary School, Life Skills: # 275	
Robb Road Elementary School, Grade 4: # 258	
Cummings Home: # 264, 267, 269, 271, 276	5
MCFD: # 263 Probation: # 263	1
YERII: Bear Creek Nature Park: # 29-264, 30-265 (16 tour participants)	2
YERII: Headquarters Townsite Park: # 31-251, 32-255 (39 tour participants)	2
YERIII: Comox Valley Project Watershed Society: # 1-23-229 (140 students)	1
TOTAL 15 COMMUNITY PRESENTATIONS; 441 AUDIENCE MEMBERS	24

Table 1f: YER COMPLETION RATES

YERI: Total number of 277 youth participants; 258 completed the 20 hour program	93% Completion
YERII: Total number of 32 youth participants; 32 completed the 25 hour program	100% Completion
YERIII: One youth participant completed 25 hours	100% Completion

**TABLE 2: YOUTH AND ECOLOGICAL RESTORATION PROGRAM (YER)
BUDGET FOR APRIL 1, 2015 TO MARCH 31, 2016.**

This YER budget records expenses, income and other contributions required to serve Comox Valley vulnerable youth. YER funds were provided by BC Ministry of Children and Family Development (MCFD), Comox Valley Regional District (CVRD), Comox Valley Project Watershed Society (CVPW), UNIFOR Local 3019 and Comox Valley Red Tent. Other contributions are from Comox Valley groups for training and tools to restore local watersheds and ecosystems; and the YER Coordinator contributed time for a YER Ten Year Review report of the program long term history.

Expense Item	Expenses	Income	Other Contributions
Program Delivery Biologist	\$29,015.66 \$2,500.00	MCFD \$35,000.04 CVRD \$2,500.00 CVPW \$1,500.00 UNIFOR 3019 \$500.00 CV Red Tent \$40.00	Training \$2,000.00 Ten Year \$3,500.00
Youth Honouraria	\$1,250.00		
Program Promotion	\$850.50		
Mileage	\$3,873.50		
Supplies	\$1,643.87		
Misc. Expenses	\$406.51		Ten Year \$3,500.00
TOTALS	\$39,540.04	\$39,540.04	\$5,500.00

**APPENDIX A: YOUTH AND ECOLOGICAL RESTORATION PROGRAM (YER)
COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS (Page 1 of 4)**

YER partnered with one hundred and forty-two groups July 2004 to March 2016.

Ten groups referred youth clients from July 2004 to March 2016:

- BC Children's Hospital www.bcchildrens.ca
- Comox Valley Community Justice Centre www.cjc-comoxvalley.com
- Comox Valley Family Services Association www.comoxvalleyfamilyservices.com
- Comox Valley School District #71: Cumberland Community School; Glacier View Learning Centre; Lake Trail Middle School; Mark R. Isfeld School; Nalata'atsi
- Comox Valley Youth Resource Society
- John Howard Society of North Island www.jhsni.bc.ca/
- Ministry of Children and Family Development: www.gov.bc.ca/mcf/ Probation Services; Mental Health; Parent Teen Mediation; Over Twelve
- Queen Alexandra Centre for Children's Health www.queenalexandra.org
- Wachiay Friendship Centre, Raven Back Youth Group www.wachiay.org
- Vancouver Island Health Authority www.viha.ca

Thirty groups had youth conduct ecological restoration work from July 2004 to March 2016:

- Brooklyn Creek Watershed Society www.bcws.ca
- BC Hydro, Bridge Coastal Fish & Wildlife Restoration Program
- BC Ministry of Environment www.gov.bc.ca/env
- BC Ministry of Environment, Environmental Protection www.gov.bc.ca/env
- BC Ministry of Transportation www.gov.bc.ca/tran
- Comox Valley Environmental Council
- Comox Valley Land Trust www.cvlantrust.org
- Comox Valley Nature www.comoxvalleynaturalist.bc.ca
- Comox Valley Project Watershed Society www.projectwatershed.bc.ca
- Comox Valley Regional District www.rdc.bc.ca
- Comox Valley Sustainability Network
- Comox Valley Water Watch
- Comox Valley Watershed Assembly
- Courtenay & District Fish & Game Protective Association www.courtenayfishandgame.org
- Cumberland Community Forestry Society www.cumberlandforest.com
- Department of Fisheries and Oceans www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca
- Fanny Bay Enhancement Society www.fbses.ca
- Garry Oak Ecosystem Recovery Team www.goert.ca
- Georgia Strait Alliance www.georgiastrait.org
- Hart Watershed Society
- Millard/Piercy Watershed Stewards www.millardpiercy.org
- Morrison Creek Streamkeepers www.morrisoncreek.org/
- Mountaineer Avian Rescue Society www.wingtips.org
- Natural Journeys Society
- Oyster River Enhancement Society www.oysterriverenhancement.org/
- Perseverance Creek Streamkeepers
- Streamside Native Plants http://members.shaw.ca/nativeplants/streamside_home.html
- Sunrise Rotary Club www.strathconasunrise.bc.ca
- Tsolum River Restoration Society www.tsolumriver.org/
- World Community Development Education Society www.worldcommunity.ca

**APPENDIX A (cont.): YOUTH AND ECOLOGICAL RESTORATION PROGRAM (YER)
COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS (Page 2 of 4)**

YER partnered with one hundred and forty-two Comox Valley groups July 2004 to March 2016.

One hundred and two community groups had youth presentations from July 2004 to March 2016:

- Airport Elementary School, Grade 1
- Airport Elementary School, Grade 2/3
- Arden Park Elementary School, Kindergarten
- Arden Park Elementary School, Grade 1
- Arden Park Elementary School, Grade 4
- Arden Park Elementary School, Grade 6
- Aspen Park Elementary School, Grade 2
- Aspen Park Elementary School, Grade 3
- Aspen Park Elementary School, Grade 4
- Aspen Park Elementary School, Grade 7
- Berwick Retirement Society www.berwickrc.com/comox
- Brooklyn Elementary, Grade 5
- Casa Loma Seniors Village www.retirementconcepts.com/homes/comox-valley
- Comox Rotary Club www.comoxrotary.bc.ca
- Comox Valley Aboriginal Head Start Program, Pre-School Group
- Comox Valley Boys and Girls Club, Voices Choices Group www.cvboysandgirlsclub.ca
- Comox Valley Community Justice Centre www.cjc-comoxvalley.com
- Comox Valley Land Trust, Annual General Meeting www.cvlandtrust.org
- Comox Valley Land Trust, Board Meeting www.cvlandtrust.org
- Comox Valley Natural History Society www.comoxvalleynaturalist.bc.ca
- Comox Valley Senior Peer Counselling
- Comox Valley Project Watershed Society www.projectwatershed.bc.ca
- Comox Valley Regional District, Community Services Branch
- Comox Valley Watershed Assembly
- Comox Valley Women's Resource Society
- Comox Valley Youth for Christ www.comoxvalley.yfccanada.org
- Comox Valley Youth Resource Society
- Courtenay & District Fish & Game Protective Association www.courtenayfishandgame.org
- Courtenay Elementary School, Grade 2/3
- Courtenay Elementary School, Grade 3/4
- Courtenay Elementary School, Grade 5/6
- Cumberland Elementary School, Grade 5/6
- Creekside Commons www.creeksidecommons.ca
- Cumberland Community School, Grade 1/2
- Cumberland Community School, Grade 4/5
- Cumberland Community School, Grade 5/6
- Cumberland Junior School
- Cumberland Lodge
- Cumberland Rotary Club www.rotarycc.org
- Cummings Home, Seniors Assisted Living Facility
- Earth Day Festival
- Eureka Support Society and Clubhouse
- Fanny Bay Enhancement Society www.fbse.ca
- Fanny Bay Old Age Pensioners, Seniors Craft Group
- Glacier View Lodge Society www.glacierviewlodge.ca
- Glacier View School, Brideway Program
- Glacier View School, Independent Learning Program
- Glacier View School, Key Program

**APPENDIX A (cont.): YOUTH AND ECOLOGICAL RESTORATION PROGRAM (YER)
COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS (Page 3 of 4)**

YER partnered with one hundred and forty-two Comox Valley groups July 2004 to March 2016.

One hundred and two community groups had youth presentations July 2004 to March 2016 (cont.):

- Glacier View School, Senior Alternate Program
- Island Early Education Centre, After School Group
- John Howard Society, Staff Meeting www.jhsni.bc.ca/
- Kidzone Daycare
- Kiwanis Club of Courtenay www.facebook.com/pages/Kiwanis-Club-of-Courtenay-BC
- Lake Trail Middle School, Grade 8
- Lake Trail Middle School, Grade 9
- Lake Trail Middle School, Pride Program
- Lake Trail Middle School, Humanities Program
- Lake Trail Middle School, Youth and Family Support
- Lewis Centre, Youth Program, Day Camp www.courtenay.ca/recreation/programs.aspx
- Lighthouse Early Learning Centre www.cvedcs.com/
- Linc Youth Centre, Action Committee
- Linc Youth Centre, Staff
- Linc Youth Centre, Youth Council
- Mark R. Isfeld Secondary School, Life Skills Program
- Merry Andrew Day Care
- Miracle Beach Elementary School, Grade 1
- Millard Piercy Watershed Stewards
- Ministry of Children and Family Development, Mental Health Team
- Ministry of Children and Family Development, Over Twelve Team
- Ministry of Children and Family Development, Probation Services
- Mountaineer Avian Rescue Society, AGM www.wingtips.org
- Nala'atsi Alternate School
- North Island College, Human Service Worker Program
- North Island College, Human Services Articulation Conference
- Oyster River Enhancement Society www.oysterriverenhancement.org/
- Puddleduck Daycare
- Pumpkin Patch Daycare
- Puntledge Park Elementary School, Kindergarten
- Puntledge Elementary School, Grade 3
- Puntledge Park Elementary School, Grade 4
- Puntledge Park Elementary School, Grade 5/6
- Queneesh Elementary School, Earth Day Celebration
- Queneesh Elementary School, Kindergarten to Grade 4
- Robb Road Elementary School, grade 4
- Roseberry Pre-School
- Royston Elementary School, Grade 7
- St. Josephs Hospital, Adolescent Support Group
- St. Josephs Hospital, Residential Care Facility
- St. Josephs Hospital, Transitional Ward
- Saltwater Waldorf School
- Scouts Canada, First Comox Scout Troup
- Scouts Canada, First Tsolum Cubs Group
- Stevenson Place (Seniors Independent Living) www.novapacific.ca/page131.htm
- Tsolum River Restoration Society www.tsolumriver.org/
- Tiger Too Pre-School
- Vanier Senior Secondary School, Counseling Group

**APPENDIX A (cont.): YOUTH AND ECOLOGICAL RESTORATION PROGRAM (YER)
COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS (Page 3 of 4)**

YER partnered with one hundred and forty-two Comox Valley groups July 2004 to March 2016.

One hundred and two community groups had youth presentations July 2004 to March 2016 (cont.):

- Vanier Senior Secondary School, Grade 8 English
- Vanier Senior Secondary School, Grade 8 Science
- Vanier Secondary School, Little Friends Day Care
- Wachiay Friendship Centre, Elders Lunch www.wachiay.org
- Wachiay Friendship Centre, Raven Back Youth Group www.wachiay.org
- Youth and Ecological Restoration Program, Annual Community Celebration