

# **YOUTH AND ECOLOGICAL RESTORATION PROGRAM**

## **PROGRESS REPORT**

For the Period of April 1, 2009 to March 31, 2010  
Completed on July 9, 2010

PROGRAM FUNDED BY:

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

REPORT PREPARED BY:

**WENDY KOTILLA  
4327 MINTO ROAD  
COURTENAY, BC  
V9N 9P7**

250-336-8487  
[wkotilla@shaw.ca](mailto:wkotilla@shaw.ca)  
[www.youthecology.ca](http://www.youthecology.ca)

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## **1. INTRODUCTION**

The Youth and Ecological Restoration Program (YER) has been working with vulnerable youth in the Comox Valley for six years. YER is a twenty hour work experience and training program for youth who are struggling with a variety of issues in their lives. From July 2004 to March 2010, one hundred and fifty-one youth have been involved in YER, and one hundred and forty-three have completed the program for a ninety five per cent completion rate. YER provides an essential front line service for youth in the Comox Valley community.

A diversity of youth are referred to YER; most of them are not fitting into mainstream social and educational systems for various reasons. Some are doing community service hours for a range of crimes such as shoplifting, mischief, breaking and entering, drug possession and trafficking, vandalism, robbery, and sexual and physical assault. Others have mental health issues and antisocial behaviours that include schizophrenia, complex traumas, attention deficit hyperactive disorder, fetal alcohol syndrome, aspergers syndrome, tourett's syndrome, speech impediments, premature personality disorders, emotional underdevelopment, depression, suicide attempts, violent tendencies, learning disabilities, developmental disorders and low self esteem.

YER introduces youth to positive community members involved in ecological restoration work with local watersheds and ecosystems. This program provides instruction, support, guidance and mentoring for youth who are experiencing challenges connecting with school, work and community situations. Through this work, the youth gain fundamental life skills, and a sense of themselves as valuable, contributing members of our community. YER facilitates each youth to gain confidence, achieve success and realize their individual potential. Most of them finish the program knowing that they can make a difference.

British Columbia, Ministry of Children and Family Development (MCFD) have directly and indirectly funded YER since it started in July 2004. From August 2007 to April 2009, a YER second phase was funded by the Vancouver Foundation to further support these youth in their transition towards becoming productive society members. Funding to continue YERII has not yet been found; more YERII information is available on request. Twenty-five youth participated in YER from April 1, 2009 to March 31, 2010; this report documents that time period.

## **2. PROGRESS AND OUTCOMES**

YER progress and outcomes are provided for the 2009/2010 fiscal year which includes: youth participant summary (Table 1); YER goals (Table 2) and youth quotes; community partnerships and supporter quotes (Appendix A and B); annual community celebration; program promotion.

### **Youth Participant Summary**

Twenty-five youth participated in YER from April 1, 2009 to March 31, 2010; they were aged twelve to eighteen years old; ten were girls and fifteen were boys (Table 1). Twenty-four youth completed the program and one did not complete (Table 1a). Five Comox Valley organizations referred youth to YER and one referral came from BC Children's Hospital (Table 1b), although this participant (#132) was interconnected with local groups as were many other youth (Table 1c).

The twenty-five youth conducted ecological work with twelve environmental and community organizations (Table 1d). Twenty-four youth completed YER with presentations to fifteen community groups and two youth gave extra speeches at the annual YER celebration (Table 1e). Eighteen youth received fifty dollars on YER completion; six youth made community service hour contributions (Table 1b) and one (#135) did not complete the program (Table 1a).

### **YER Goals and Youth Quotes**

There are five main YER goals: building healthy community relationships; gaining valuable work experience; improving ecological knowledge; increasing personal and social skills; and enhancing communication skills. Each youth participant is interviewed to determine what they have learned and files are established, which are then evaluated for program effectiveness and categorized into percentages for the five goals (Table 2). Twenty-four youth were asked if they would like an opportunity to be involved in a second phase of the program (YERII); fifteen replied with a yes; eight answered with a maybe; one said no.

Building healthy community relationships has consistently been the YER goal where most of the youths' learning has occurred (Table 2). Youth quotes are selected for each of the five goals to emphasize how youth have expressed their increase in knowledge.

#### **GOAL # 1: BUILDING HEALTHY COMMUNITY RELATIONSHIPS**

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

- "It was a heart felt day full of busy working and busy chatting. The spunk and enthusiasm of these people was great. I can't say enough about these people, they are the real deal; they are the people this world needs more of." (*Participant # 132*)
- "This program helped me to be a citizen, helped me to work with the community. It was a good experience for me. I loved helping the community and it's something I'll never forget. I hope I can give the knowledge to other people." (*Participant # 136*)

#### **GOAL # 2: GAINING VALUED WORK EXPERIENCE**

Data Collection Methods; Working with Tools; Worksite Safety; Job Variety

- "I learned how to put data into the computer, graphing stuff and to check it over because if you don't know the types of people who are going to be going over, so they understand it and if your data is wrong they aren't going to trust you." (*Participant # 127*)
- "It was really good to work with those guys. I liked Jack and Dave. Jack is to me the kind of person I'd like to become. They know their stuff and what their job requires." (*Participant # 133*)

#### **GOAL # 3: IMPROVING ECOLOGICAL KNOWLEDGE**

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

### Understanding Environmental Impacts

- “The fish fertilize the water and land. The trees give shade and food to fish, the birds and animals transport the fish to fertilize the trees. This is the circle of an ecosystem or watershed.” (*Participant # 129*)
- “The whole concept on walking the river is to count how many spawning and dead fish there is. A mort is short for mortality, which means dead fish. When a female fish wiggles her tail she is making a redd. A redd is a place where the females lay their eggs in the gravel. In the process of making a redd they disturb the gravel so that the area is clean enough for her eggs to be laid in a hole. The males fertilize those eggs and the female buries them.” (*Participant # 142*)

### GOAL # 4: INCREASING PERSONAL AND SOCIAL SKILLS

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

- “When I’m just reading about stuff, I don’t get it, but when I am experiencing things hands on I figure it out a lot faster than I usually would. It was the best fun I’ve ever had because it’s the first time I ever enjoyed learning.” (*Participant # 148*)
- “Working with old people is fun because they are like a group of kids, so I got along well and since they were old I showed more respect and was a bit more eager to work to show a good impression. This program changed the way I thought about old people because I got to see what they were like and how to work with them.” (*Participant # 149*)

### GOAL # 5: ENHANCING COMMUNICATION SKILLS

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

- “It was empowering; it was awesome; it was epic. The way they reacted, they listened, they learned, and they weren’t completely and utterly rambunctious. I’m not deathly afraid to talk in front of anybody anymore.” (*Participant # 140*)
- “We were always surrounded by people who came out to volunteer on their own time. I finally saw what they were passionate about, whether it was fish or trees; it was that they were connected with their passion in some way. We are all connected somehow and that is something to be passionate about!” (*Participant # 146*)

### Community Partnerships and Supporter Quotes

The number of groups that YER has worked with from 2004 to 2010 has now reached eighty-nine (Appendix A). The diversity of groups benefits the youth involved in the program as they learn to interact with a range of people of different ages and lifestyles. These community partnerships are invaluable, both for the youth participants and for the community members involved with the groups. There are: seven referral agencies, twenty-nine ecological groups, and fifty-three places where youth have presented speeches.

Some of the community partnerships confirmed their support this year with letters of support for MCFD to continue YER funding. Thirty-six individuals from partnership groups wrote letters exemplifying how our youth and community benefit from this program (Appendix B). A sample

of the amazing feedback and support for YER are revealed in the six quotes listed below. Copies of the letters of support are available on request.

#### ENVIRONMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

Tsolum River Restoration Society, Jack Minard

“Our experience with these young people has been quite amazing. Often these youth show up to their first work placement somewhat reluctant or even downright belligerent, but by the time we see them for their public presentation a transformation has occurred. The introduction to real world ecological systems and the careful tutelage of Wendy Kotilla combine to offer potentially life changing experiences for these vulnerable young people.”

#### MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT

Child and Youth Mental Health Services, Anne Davidson

“Engaged with you and the program, their challenges became less challenging and they were able to interact with people and the natural world with interest. The program gave them purpose and a place to be themselves without judgment. They soared and experienced themselves as whole; they were seen, they were heard, and they realized they were recognized as being valuable and worthy. This is something they will remember. Thank you for creating such a program and thank you for being with these youth, one on one, and treating them with the dignity, respect and patience that they deserve.”

#### SCHOOLS/TEACHERS

Courtenay Elementary, Jeff Stewart

“For the past six years the YER program has provided hope and a retooling of personal focus for some of our most at risk youth in the Comox Valley; over 150 students in all. The work of YER is part of the essential intervention network in our community; one of the few that are capable of catching and supporting students who would otherwise continue a sharp decline in behaviours that often lead to incarceration or serious personal harm. It does this through the power of experiential education and by developing real connections to supportive adults in their lives.”

#### SENIORS GROUPS

Casa Loma Seniors Village, Cyndi White

“This is a wonderful program because not only do the youth involved gain lots of knowledge and experience around environmental issues, they engage in conversation with the seniors and learn their thoughts, opinions and ideas regarding the topic they have been studying. Our seniors look forward to presentations from YER graduates. In turn this provides a multigenerational, educational, interactive and intelligent discussion for the youth involved, the seniors, myself and Wendy.”

#### YOUTH AND FAMILIES

Foster Parent, Mickey Peebles

“During your program these youth learn from your passion and commitment to our environment. They gain very valuable work experience. What they learn with you in such a very short period of time is that they and everyone else really can make a difference! While working cooperatively with you and other community members they learn very important social skills that they’ll desperately need to survive. They gain the self confidence and self pride they need to be successful in life. They leave your program feeling proud of what they accomplished.”

#### **YOUTH SUPPORT WORKERS**

Comox Valley Family Services, Victor Scott

“It is clear my clients have gained from the program on many levels including personal awareness, social skills, accountability, relationship building and self confidence. When speaking to my clients the feedback is consistently positive and in many cases they are able to describe in their own words the skills and just as importantly the understandings they have made about themselves. Your ability to interact with the youth on a meaningful basis is the key for the programs success. Your hands on practical work coupled with a truly skillful understanding of relational teaching gives YER its’ strength and success.”

#### **Annual Community Celebration**

The annual YER celebration was held on March 4, 2010 at the Glacier View Learning Centre in collaboration with the principal. This was a change in venue for the annual celebration with the intention of encouraging more youth to come. About fifty people attended the gathering and a clear majority of them were under the age of nineteen, which was wonderful to see.

Two youth repeated the presentations they had given for YER completion and were well received by the audience. When YER youth take the knowledge they have gained and present a speech in our community, they become empowered as teachers and educators. Most people who attended the celebration shared an experience with nature, YER graduates talked about their involvement with the program and YER supporters spoke about the benefits of the program for the Comox Valley community. Then we shared pizza, pop, cake and coffee.

#### **Program Promotion**

Promoting YER occurs through articles and presentations during the year. Press releases for the annual YER celebration are sent to the local papers. This year the Comox Valley Record had an article announcing the event on February 24<sup>th</sup>, a picture and caption on February 26<sup>th</sup> and a follow-up article with a photo on March 12<sup>th</sup>. The Comox Valley Echo did not publish a press release, but one of their reporters did a wonderful half page article with two photos on March 9<sup>th</sup> which had the title “Youth Program Celebrates Six Years”. A colour poster for the celebration was also sent to some of the schools to put in a prominent location so students would see it.

At times some of the local organizations that support YER also ask for letters or articles. During the 2009/2010 fiscal year letters of support were sent to Comox Valley Land Trust and Fanny Bay Enhancement Society, and an article for the Oyster River Enhancement Society newsletter. A request letter was also sent to the organizations and individuals who wrote YER support letters.

The YER photo album is updated annually with photos and captions of new graduates engaged with ecological restoration work in the watersheds of our community. This album is circulated to students and anyone else interested in seeing what kind of work the youth are involved with. As well, the YER website, created in 2008, was updated in 2009/2010, giving people an opportunity to view the program on the internet ([www.youthecology.ca](http://www.youthecology.ca)).

Several presentations were given throughout the year at Glacier View Learning Centre and to MCFD staff. In May 2009, Courtenay Elementary School Principal, Jeff Stewart, asked for a YER presentation at an At Risk Youth Intervention Program meeting at the school board office. The YER model was used in the development of School District #72 Alternate to Suspension program that would empower suspended youth, creating a sense of inclusion and hope for them. The following is an additional quote from Jeff Stewart's YER support letter.

“Throughout the discussions and design work, it was clear that the various community partners (RCMP, VIHA, MCFD, JHS, CJC and Youth Probation) leaned heavily on the knowledge base of Wendy Kotilla, the design of the YER program, and their direct experience with YER as a model for the philosophy and dynamics of a program that would suit our needs. It was, also, clearly evident that there was no way that we could match the quality and impact of the YER program that Wendy was already providing in our community given the parameters and terms of reference of our mission.”

### 3. BUDGET UPDATE

The final budget for YER from April 1, 2009 to March 31, 2010 was \$30,102.40 (Table 3 and 4). Funds were provided by MCFD in the amount of \$30,000.00; \$86.62 in interest was gained from investing the principal in a term deposit; and \$15.78 remained at the 2008/2009 fiscal year end. Expense items are listed below and in Table 3; monthly expenditures are presented in Table 4.

- **Professional fees** included fees, administration costs and program evaluation.
- **Honouraria** for youth participants was \$50 for eighteen youth and \$20 for three youth.
- **Equipment** items were waterproof YER stickers for graduating youth participants and a Comox Valley watershed map for presentations.
- **Transportation** costs were calculated at \$2855.50.
- **Supplies** included office, lunch costs and general materials required for YER work.
- **Other** expenses are program insurance, bank charges and food items for the YER celebration.
- **In-kind Contributions** of \$5366.00 were given by organizations providing training and work tools, donations for the YER celebration and preparing the annual YER report.

### 4. SUMMARY

In its sixth year, YER has worked with one hundred and fifty-one Comox Valley youth, and one hundred and forty-three have finished the program (95% completion). From April 2009 to March 2010, there were twenty-five youth participants; twenty-four completed and one was incomplete (Table 1). Since its inception in 2004, eighty-nine groups have been associated with YER: seven referred youth; twenty-nine had environmental work done; and fifty-three had youth presentations



about their YER experience (Appendix A).

A variety of youth are referred to YER for criminal activities, mental health issues or antisocial and unconventional behaviours. YER is a highly regarded and essential early intervention and prevention program for troubled and vulnerable youth in our community. Youth participants and community groups involved with the program give clear confirmation of their support and praise, and have requested the necessity for continuance of YER through their supportive comments and letters (Appendix B).

While there is no present funding for YERII, a majority of the youth participants interviewed expressed an interest in learning more of the community building, personal, communication and life skills that they gained in YERI. It would be in the best interests of our community's future to provide these youth with an opportunity to further advance themselves to be constructive citizens.

YER is a community based program and is intrinsically interconnected with the fabric of the Comox Valley. It contributes to building strong and healthy attributes for the entire community, something we can take pride in for generations.

### 1. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thanks to the Comox Valley, MCFD, Community Services Manager, Jeff Kizuk for continuing to allocate annual funds for YER. Appreciations also go to staff at the local MCFD office for their support of YER and for referring youth clients to the program; special thanks to Peter Birch who is always available to address my questions and concerns. Heartfelt acknowledgements go to the individuals and community groups who took the time to write YER letters of support.

| <b>TABLE 1: YOUTH AND ECOLOGICAL RESTORATION PROGRAM (YER)</b>   |               |
|--|---------------|
| <b>YOUTH PARTICIPANT SUMMARY TABLE FOR APRIL 1, 2009 TO MARCH 31, 2010.</b>  |               |
| YER is a 20-hour work experience/training program for Comox Valley vulnerable youth funded by BC,  |               |
| Ministry of Children and Family Development (MCFD). Youth were given a number to protect their   |               |
| anonymity. There were 25 youth participants (Numbers 127-151); 10 girls and 15 boys; ages 12 to 18.  |               |
|  |               |
|  |               |
|  |               |
| <b>Table 1a: YER COMPLETION</b>  | <b>YOUTH</b>  |
| <b>YER completion required finishing 20 hours and giving a community presentation.</b>   | <b>TOTALS</b> |
| Total Complete: Participant # 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151 | 24            |
| Total Incomplete: # 135  | 1             |
| <b>TOTAL 485 WORK EXPERIENCE HOURS</b>   | <b>25</b>     |
|  |               |
|  |               |
|  |               |
| <b>Table 1b: YOUTH ORGANIZATION REFERRALS</b>  |               |

|  |           |
|--|-----------|
| <b>Youth participants were referred by five agencies in the Comox Valley.</b>                |           |
| MCFD: # 136, 137, 140, 144, 145  | 5         |
| Parent Teen Mediation #136; Mental Health Team #140; Over Twelve Team #137, 144, 145         |           |
| Comox Valley School District: # 127, 129, 131, 133, 134, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151             | 10        |
| Sandwich Alternate: # 148, 150, 151                      Nala'atsi: # 147, 149               |           |
| Independent Learning: # 127, 129, 133                      Lake Trail Elementary: # 131, 134 |           |
| Community Justice Centre: # 128, 135, 138, 141, 142, 143, 146                                | 7         |
| John Howard Society: # 130, 139  | 2         |
| BC Childrens Hospital: # 132   | 1         |
| <b>TOTAL 5 YOUTH REFERRAL ORGANIZATIONS</b>  | <b>25</b> |

**Table 1c: YOUTH ORGANIZATION CONNECTIONS**

|  |    |
|--|----|
| <b>Youth participants were interconnected with other Comox Valley youth services.</b>  |    |
| SD #71: # 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151 | 24 |
| The Linc: # 128, 129, 130, 132, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 141, 142, 144, 145, 148, 149, 150, 151                             | 18 |
| MCFD: # 129, 130, 131, 132, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 142, 144, 145, 148, 149, 151                                      | 17 |
| Community Justice Centre: # 128, 135, 137, 138, 140, 141, 142, 143, 146  | 9  |
| John Howard Society: # 127, 128, 129, 130, 133, 135, 139   | 7  |
| Comox Valley Boys and Girls Club: # 130, 131, 136, 138, 139, 147, 149  | 7  |
| Comox Valley Family Services: # 137, 145, 151  | 3  |
| <b>TOTAL 7 YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS</b>   |    |

**TABLE 1 (Cont.): YOUTH AND ECOLOGICAL RESTORATION PROGRAM (YER)**

**YOUTH PARTICIPANT SUMMARY TABLE FOR APRIL 1, 2009 TO MARCH 31, 2010.**

**Table 1d: ECOLOGICAL RESTORATION WORK**

| <b>Work events were attended by 1602 community members; an average of 64 per youth participant. Each youth worked with an average of 4 organizations.</b> | <b>YOUTH TOTALS</b> |
|---|---------------------|
| Tsolum River Restoration Society: # 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 145, 146, 147, 148, 150               | 21                  |
| Oyster River Enhancement Society: # 127, 128, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151                    | 20                  |
| Millard/Piercy Watershed Stewards: # 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 137, 138, 139, 140, 142, 143   | 14                  |
| Mountaineer Avian Rescue Society: # 127, 128, 129, 130, 136, 137, 139, 140, 141, 144, 147, 148, 149, 151  | 14                  |
| Morrison Creek Streamkeepers: # 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 134, 137, 138, 144, 146, 147   | 11                  |
| Comox Valley Regional District: # 138, 139, 142, 144, 148   | 5                   |
| Fanny Bay Enhancement Society: # 148, 149, 150, 151   | 4                   |
| Brooklyn Creek Watershed Society: # 137, 138, 139, 140  | 4                   |
| Streamside Native Plants: # 144, 145, 146   | 3                   |
| Comox Valley Project Watershed Society: # 136, 141, 150   | 3                   |
| Courtenay and District Fish and Game Protective Association: # 136, 149   | 2                   |
| World Community Development Education Society: # 130  | 1                   |

|   |           |
|---|-----------|
| <b>TOTAL 12 ENVIRONMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS</b>   |           |
|   |           |
|   |           |
| <b>Table 1e: COMMUNITY PRESENTATIONS</b>  |           |
| <b>Attended by a total of 414 community members.</b>  |           |
| <b>Two youth did two presentations; one for YER graduation and one at the YER annual celebration.</b> |           |
| Comox Valley Alternate Schools: # 127, 149, 150, 151  | 4         |
| Sandwich # 150, 151; Independent Learning # 127; Nala'atsi # 149                                      |           |
| Glacier View Lodge: # 131, 143, 144   | 3         |
| Berwick Retirement Community: # 132, 142  | 2         |
| Casa Loma Seniors Village: # 136, 148   | 2         |
| Wachaiy Friendship Centre, Seniors Lunch: # 137, 147  | 2         |
| Kidzone Daycare: # 140, 141   | 2         |
| Youth and Ecological Restoration 6th Annual Community Celebration: # 130, 149                         | 2         |
| Comox Valley Land Trust, Annual General Meeting: # 133  | 1         |
| Comox Valley Land Trust, Board Meeting: # 146   | 1         |
| MCFD, Over Twelve Team: # 145   | 1         |
| John Howard Society, Staff Meeting: # 139   | 1         |
| Lewis Centre, Youth Program, Day Camp: # 138  | 1         |
| Arden Elementary School, Kindergarten: # 134  | 1         |
| Aspen Park Elementary School, Grade 3: # 128  | 1         |
| Courtenay Elementary School, Grade 3: # 129   | 1         |
| Vanier Secondary School, Grade 8 English: # 130   | 1         |
| <b>TOTAL 17 COMMUNITY PRESENTATION LOCATIONS</b>  | <b>26</b> |

|  |    |
|--|----|
| <b>TABLE 2: YOUTH AND ECOLOGICAL RESTORATION PROJECT (YER)</b>   |    |
| <b>GOAL SUMMARY TABLE FOR OF APRIL 1, 2009 TO MARCH 31, 2010.</b>  |    |
| Funded by BC, Ministry of Children and Family Development, 25 Comox Valley youth were involved with YER in 2009/2010. All participants were given a number (127-151) to protect their anonymity and interviewed to document what they learned. Interview analysis was conducted to verify youth's learning accomplishments and categorized by percentages. |    |
|  |    |
| <b>GOAL #1: BUILDING HEALTHY COMMUNITY RELATIONSHIPS</b>   |    |
| Cooperation, Support and Compassion; Positive Role Models and Mentoring; Increased Community Capacity and Caring.  |    |
| 100%: # 130, 132, 133, 134, 136, 138, 140, 142, 144, 145, 146, 148, 149, 151   | 14 |
| 75%: # 127, 129, 131, 137, 143, 147, 150   | 7  |
| 50%: # 128, 139, 141   | 3  |
| 25%:   | 0  |
|  | 24 |
| <b>GOAL #2: GAINING VALUED WORK EXPERIENCE</b>   |    |
| Data Collection Methods; Working with Tools; Worksite Safety; and Job Variety.   |    |
| 100%: # 133  | 1  |
| 75%: # 129, 130, 132, 134, 136, 137, 138, 140, 142, 146, 147, 150, 151   | 13 |
| 50%: # 127, 141, 143, 144, 145, 148, 149   | 7  |
| 25%: # 128, 131, 139,  | 3  |
|  | 24 |
| <b>GOAL # 3: IMPROVING ECOLOGICAL KNOWLEDGE</b>  |    |
| Ecosystem Cycles and Interconnections; Identification Techniques for Plants, Animals and Fish;   |    |

|  |    |
|--|----|
| Understanding Environmental Impacts.   |    |
| 100%: # 127, 131, 136, 138, 140, 142, 146  | 7  |
| 75%: # 128, 129, 130, 132, 133, 134, 137, 141, 143, 144, 145, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151                  | 16 |
| 50%: # 139   | 1  |
| 25%:   | 0  |
|  | 24 |
| <b>GOAL #4: INCREASING PERSONAL AND SOCIAL SKILLS</b>  |    |
| Meaningful Participation, Empowerment and Motivation; Commitment, Respect and Responsibility; Patience |    |
| and Endurance; Accomplishment, Self-confidence and Success.  |    |
| 100%: # 133, 136, 142, 144, 146, 148, 149  | 7  |
| 75%: # 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 134, 137, 138, 140, 141, 143, 145, 147, 151                       | 15 |
| 50%: # 139, 150  | 2  |
| 25%:   | 0  |
|  | 24 |
| <b>GOAL #5: ENHANCING COMMUNICATION SKILLS</b>   |    |
| Public Speaking and Education; Active Listening and Engagement; Interpersonal Relationships.           |    |
| 100%: # 133, 136, 137, 140, 142, 144, 146, 148, 149  | 9  |
| 75%: # 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 134, 138, 139, 141, 143, 145, 147, 151                                 | 13 |
| 50%: # 127, 150  | 2  |
| 25%:   | 0  |
|  | 24 |

**TABLE 3: YOUTH AND ECOLOGICAL RESTORATION PROGRAM (YER)  
BUDGET TABLE FOR APRIL 1, 2009 TO MAR 31, 2010.**

Expenses, income and in kind contributions required to conduct work experience and training program for vulnerable youth in the Comox Valley. YER 2009/2010 funding was provided by BC Ministry of Children and Family Development (MCFD).

| Expense Item     | Expenses           | Income                 | In Kind Contributions |
|------------------|--------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| Program Delivery | \$20,125.22        | MCFD \$30,000.00       | Training \$3,750.00   |
| Administration   | \$2,000.00         | 08/09 Account \$15.78  | YER Report            |
| Evaluation       | \$2,000.00         | 09/10 Interest \$86.62 | Writing \$896.00      |
| Honouraria       | \$960.00           |                        |                       |
| Equipment        | \$867.52           |                        |                       |
| Mileage          | \$2855.50          |                        |                       |
| Supplies         | \$631.97           |                        | Work Tools \$370.00   |
| Other            | \$662.19           |                        | Celebration \$350.00  |
| <b>TOTALS</b>    | <b>\$30,102.40</b> | <b>\$30,102.40</b>     | <b>\$5,366.00</b>     |

**TABLE 4: YOUTH AND ECOLOGICAL RESTORATION PROJECT (YER)  
MONTHLY EXPENDITURES FOR APRIL 1, 2009 TO MAR 31, 2010.**

| Month        | Total            | Fees             | Honour        | Mileage         | Equip.        | Supplies      | Other         |
|--------------|------------------|------------------|---------------|-----------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Apr/09       | 5,043.01         | 4,200.00         | 150.00        | 565.00          |               | 86.66         | 41.35         |
| May/09       | 6,337.14         | 4,620.00         | 200.00        | 439.00          | 737.52        | 18.52         | 285.97        |
| June/09      | 1,128.57         | 840.00           | 50.00         | 59.50           | 130.00        | 7.34          | 41.73         |
| July/09      | 1,018.44         | 812.00           |               | 172.00          |               | 26.90         | 7.54          |
| Aug/09       | 2,389.03         | 2,048.00         | 50.00         | 223.50          |               | 58.45         | 9.08          |
| Sept/09      | 3,063.98         | 2,560.00         | 100.00        | 312.50          |               | 82.40         | 9.08          |
| Oct/09       | 4,516.19         | 3,840.00         | 100.00        | 486.50          |               | 81.38         | 8.31          |
| Nov/09       | 3,184.84         | 2,560.00         | 200.00        | 362.00          |               | 52.99         | 9.85          |
| Dec/09       | 8.31             |                  |               |                 |               |               | 8.31          |
| Jan/10       | 1,305.27         | 1,024.00         | 20.00         | 99.00           |               | 49.50         | 112.77        |
| Feb/10       | 1,304.57         | 1,024.00         | 50.00         | 90.00           |               | 21.45         | 119.12        |
| Mar/10       | 803.05           | 597.22           | 40.00         | 46.50           |               | 110.25        | 9.08          |
| <b>TOTAL</b> | <b>30,102.40</b> | <b>24,125.22</b> | <b>960.00</b> | <b>2,855.50</b> | <b>867.52</b> | <b>631.97</b> | <b>662.19</b> |

**APPENDIX A: YOUTH AND ECOLOGICAL RESTORATION PROGRAM (YER)  
COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS**

YER worked with eighty-nine groups in the Comox Valley community from July 2004 to March 2010. Youth work with community members to restore the environmental health of our local watersheds.

**Eighty-nine Comox Valley groups benefited from YER services – July 2004 to March 2010**

**Seven groups referred youth clients from July 2004 to March 2010:**

- BC Children’s Hospital [www.bcchildrens.ca](http://www.bcchildrens.ca)
- Comox Valley Alternate Schools:  
Nalata’atsi; Sandwick; Independent Learning; Senior Alternate; Contract Tutoring
- Comox Valley Community Justice Centre [www.cjc-comoxvalley.com](http://www.cjc-comoxvalley.com)
- Comox Valley Family Services Association [www.comoxvalleyfamilyservices.com](http://www.comoxvalleyfamilyservices.com)
- Comox Valley Youth Resource Society
- John Howard Society of North Island [www.jhsni.bc.ca/](http://www.jhsni.bc.ca/)
- Ministry of Children and Family Development:  
Probation Services; Mental Health; Parent Teen Mediation; Over Twelve

**Twenty-nine groups had youth conduct ecological restoration work July 2004 to March 2010:**

- Brooklyn Creek Watershed Society [www.bcws.ca](http://www.bcws.ca)
- BC Hydro, Bridge Coastal Fish & Wildlife Restoration Program
- BC Ministry of Environment [www.gov.bc.ca/env](http://www.gov.bc.ca/env)
- BC Ministry of Transportation [www.gov.bc.ca/tran](http://www.gov.bc.ca/tran)
- Comox Valley Environmental Council
- Comox Valley Land Trust [www.cvlandtrust.org](http://www.cvlandtrust.org)
- Comox Valley Natural History Society [www.comoxvalleynaturalist.bc.ca](http://www.comoxvalleynaturalist.bc.ca)
- Comox Valley Water Research
- Comox Valley Watershed Assembly
- Comox Valley Regional District [www.rdc.bc.ca](http://www.rdc.bc.ca)
- Comox Valley Sustainability Network

- Comox Valley Project Watershed Society [www.projectwatershed.bc.ca](http://www.projectwatershed.bc.ca)
- Courtenay & District Fish & Game Protective Association [www.courtenayfishandgame.org](http://www.courtenayfishandgame.org)
- Cumberland Community Forestry Society [www.cumberlandforest.com](http://www.cumberlandforest.com)
- Department of Fisheries and Oceans [www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca](http://www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca)
- Fanny Bay Enhancement Society [www.fbse.ca](http://www.fbse.ca)
- Garry Oak Ecosystem Recovery Team [www.goert.ca](http://www.goert.ca)
- Georgia Strait Alliance [www.georgiastrait.org](http://www.georgiastrait.org)
- Hart Watershed Society
- Millard/Piercy Watershed Stewards [www.millardpiercy.org](http://www.millardpiercy.org)
- Morrison Creek Streamkeepers [www.morrisoncreek.org/](http://www.morrisoncreek.org/)
- Mountaineer Avian Rescue Society [www.wingtips.org](http://www.wingtips.org)
- Natural Journeys Society
- Oyster River Enhancement Society [www.oysterriverenhancement.org/](http://www.oysterriverenhancement.org/)
- Perseverance Creek Streamkeepers
- Tsolum River Restoration Society [www.tsolumriver.org/](http://www.tsolumriver.org/)
- Streamside Native Plants
- Sunrise Rotary Club [www.strathconasunrise.bc.ca](http://www.strathconasunrise.bc.ca)
- World Community Development Education Society [www.worldcommunity.ca](http://www.worldcommunity.ca)

**Fifty-three community groups had presentations by youth July 2004 to March 2010:**

- Airport Elementary School
- Arden Elementary School, Grade 4
- Arden Elementary School, Kindergarten
- Aspen Park Elementary School, Grade 4

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

**Fifty-three community groups had presentations by youth July 2004 to March 2010 (cont.):**

- Aspen Park Elementary School, Grade 3
- Berwick Retirement Society [www.berwickrc.com/comox](http://www.berwickrc.com/comox)
- Brooklyn Elementary, Grade 5
- Casa Loma Seniors Village [www.retirementconcepts.com/homes/comox-valley](http://www.retirementconcepts.com/homes/comox-valley)
- Comox Rotary Club [www.comoxrotary.bc.ca](http://www.comoxrotary.bc.ca)
- Comox Valley Aboriginal Head Start Program
- Comox Valley Boys and Girls Club, Voices Choices Group [www.cvboysandgirlsclub.ca](http://www.cvboysandgirlsclub.ca)
- Comox Valley Community Justice Centre [www.cjc-comoxvalley.com](http://www.cjc-comoxvalley.com)
- Comox Valley Natural History Society [www.comoxvalleynaturalist.bc.ca](http://www.comoxvalleynaturalist.bc.ca)
- Comox Valley Project Watershed Society [www.projectwatershed.bc.ca](http://www.projectwatershed.bc.ca)
- Comox Valley Watershed Assembly
- Comox Valley Women's Resource Society
- Comox Valley Youth for Christ [www.comoxvalley.yfccanada.org](http://www.comoxvalley.yfccanada.org)
- Comox Valley Youth Resource Society
- Cumberland Rotary Club [www.rotarycc.org](http://www.rotarycc.org)
- Contract Tutoring Program
- Courtenay & District Fish & Game Protective Association [www.courtenayfishandgame.org](http://www.courtenayfishandgame.org)
- Courtenay Elementary, Grade 3/4
- Courtenay Elementary, Grade 5/6
- Courtenay Kiwanis Club
- Courtenay Middle School, Grade 8
- Creekside Commons [www.creeksidecommons.ca](http://www.creeksidecommons.ca)
- Ecole Aspen Park Middle School
- Fanny Bay Enhancement Society [www.fbse.ca](http://www.fbse.ca)
- Glacier View Lodge Society [www.glacierviewlodge.ca](http://www.glacierviewlodge.ca)
- Independent Learning Program
- John Howard Society, Staff Meeting [www.jhsni.bc.ca/](http://www.jhsni.bc.ca/)

- Kidzone Daycare
- Lake Trail Middle School, Grade 9
- Lewis Centre, Youth Program, Day Camp
- The LINC Youth Centre
- Merry Andrew Day Care
- Ministry of Children and Family Development, Mental Health Team
- Ministry of Children and Family Development, Over Twelve Team
- Nala'atsi Program
- North Island College, Human Service Worker Program
- North Island College, Human Services Articulation Conference
- Oyster River Enhancement Society [www.oysterriverenhancement.org/](http://www.oysterriverenhancement.org/)
- Puntledge Park Elementary School, Grade 4
- Puntledge Park Elementary School, Kindergarden
- Roseberry Pre-School
- St. Joseph Hospital Adolescent Support Group
- Sandwich Alternate School
- Scouts Canada, First Comox Scout Troup
- Senior Alternate School
- Tsolum River Restoration Society [www.tsolumriver.org/](http://www.tsolumriver.org/)
- Vanier Senior Secondary School, Grade 8
- Wachiay Friendship Centre, Raven Back Youth Group [www.wachiay.org](http://www.wachiay.org)
- Youth and Ecological Restoration Celebration

## **APPENDIX B: YOUTH AND ECOLOGICAL RESTORATION PROGRAM (YER) THIRTY-FIVE LETTERS OF SUPPORT FROM COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS**

From July 2004 to March 2010, YER has build partnerships with eighty-nine groups in the Comox Valley community. In early 2010, thirty-six of these groups provided letters of support for continuance of YER funding through the BC Ministry of Children and Family Development. These groups are listed below; copies of the letter of support are available on request.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS (13)**

Comox Valley Land Trust, Brian Conroy  
 Comox Valley Project Watershed Society, Don Castelden  
 Courtenay and District Fish and Game Protective Association, Ron Watanabe  
 Department of Fisheries and Oceans, Dave Davies  
 Fanny Bay Enhancement Society, Judy Ackinclose  
 Millard/Piercy Watershed Stewards, Brian Bloomfield  
 Morrison Creek Streamkeepers, Steve Harvey  
 Mountaineer Avian Rescue Society, Maj Birch  
 Oyster River Enhancement Society, Jim Loring  
 Registered Professional Biologist, Kathy Campbell  
 Streamside Native Plants, Richard Wahlgren  
 Tsolum River Restoration Society, Jack Minard  
 Windwalker, Wes Gietz

### **MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT (6)**

Child and Youth Mental Health Intake, Robin Meeking  
 Child and Youth Mental Health Services, Anne Davidson  
 Child and Youth Mental Health Services, Jan Shute  
 Regional Provincial Youth Justice Director, Doug Hillian  
 Social Worker, Rebecca Gorman  
 Youth Probation Officer, Kevin Rushton

SCHOOLS/TEACHERS (7)

Courtenay Elementary, Jeff Stewart

Glacier View Learning Centre (Administrator), Hugh McKinnon

Glacier View Learning Centre (Contract Tutoring), Anne Marie Kraft

Glacier View Learning Centre (Independent Learning): Lynne Powell, Sue Diederichs, Craig Olson

Glacier View Learning Centre (Senior Alternate), Ruth Zand

Nala'atsi, Toresa Crawford

Sandwich Alternate School, Rob Prescott

SENIORS GROUPS (2)

Casa Loma Seniors Village, Cyndi White

Glacier View Lodge, Liz Friis

YOUTH AND FAMILIES (3)

Foster Parent, Mickey Peebles

Parents, Karen & Russ Davis

Youth Participant, Garrett Brett

YOUTH SUPPORT WORKERS (5)

ALTIitude, Chris Tattersall

Community Justice Centre of the Comox Valley, Bruce Curtis

Comox Valley Family Services, Victor Scott

Glacier View Learning Centre, Paul Bozenich

John Howard Society, Vicky Miller