

ANNUAL REPORT 2019



WINTERGREEN
STUDIOS



www.wintergreenstudios.com | 613.273.8745 | info@wintergreenstudios.com



Rena Uptis
Rena Uptis

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

We've had an extraordinary year. We held our 5th Annual Land Art BioBlitz in the spring and we welcomed over 2,000 workshop participants over the five-day event. Then, just a week later, 6,000 bees arrived to our newly established bee yard, electric fence and all (bears, what bears?), and by the end of the summer, we had 100,000 bees. Absolutely amazing! And to cap it all off, *The House the Spirit Builds*, a book of poems and photographs featuring Wintergreen, was launched at Kingston WritersFest in September. You can pick up a copy next time you're at Wintergreen!

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Rena Uptis, President
Helen Turnbull, Secretary-Treasurer
Justin Connidis, Director
Gerald Dimnik, Director
Holly Ogden, Director
Lawrence Scanlan, Director

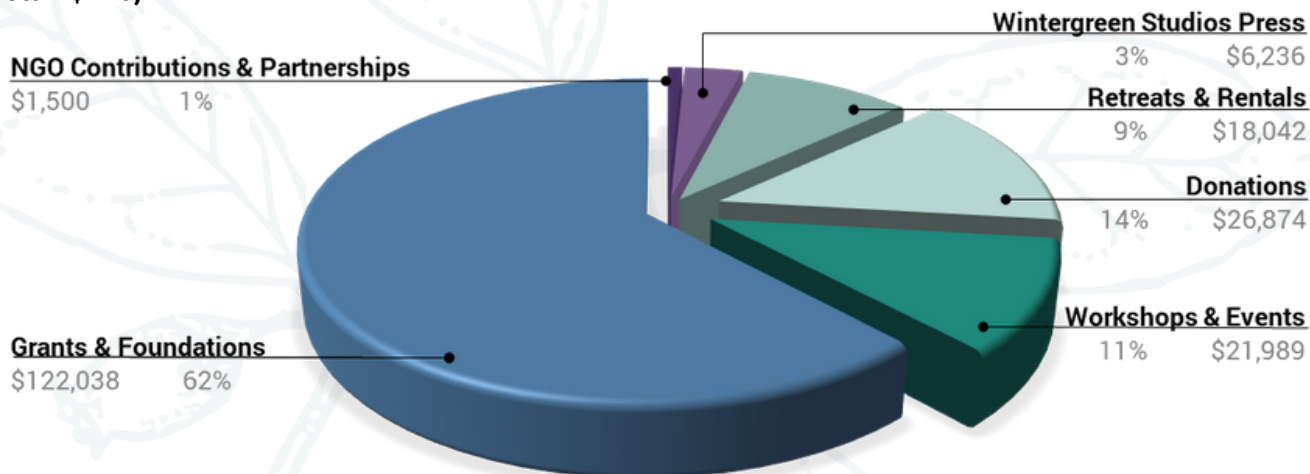
STAFF

Monica Capovilla, Program Director
Leah Mighton, Project Coordinator
Jess Pelow, Project Coordinator

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

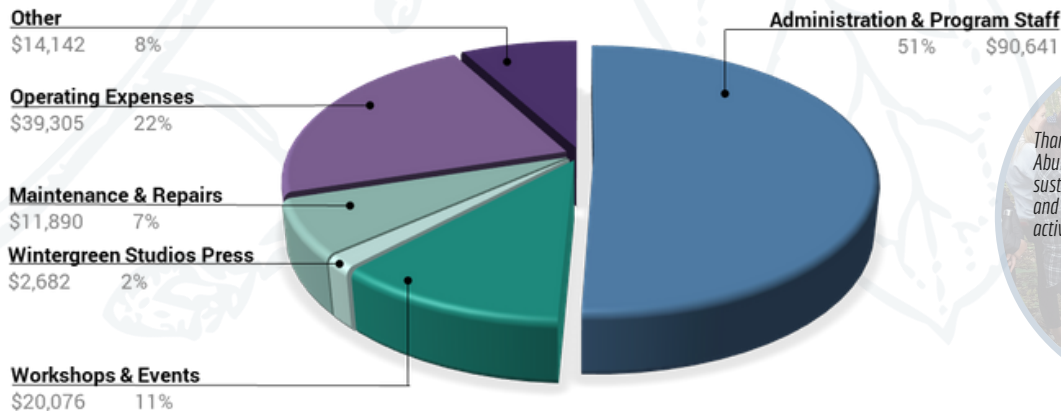
REVENUE

Total: \$196,797



EXPENDITURES

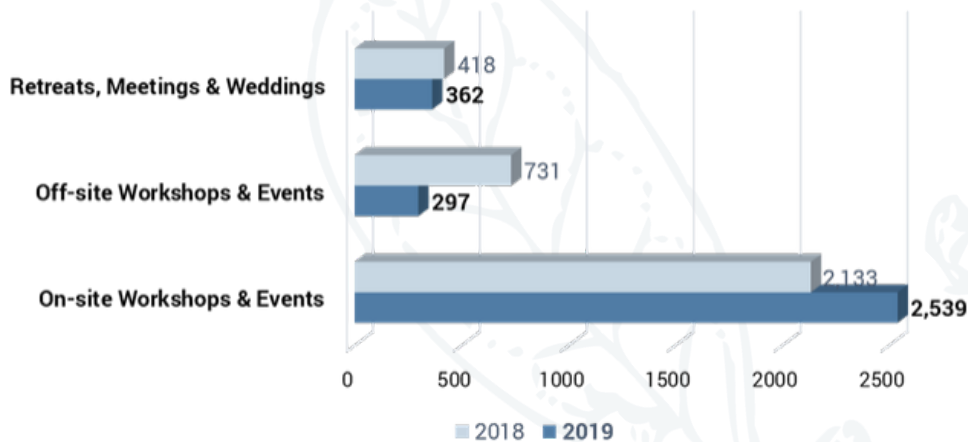
Total: \$178,736



Thank you for introducing us to the Simple Abundance workshop series. Living sustainably is extremely important to me and I will definitely be implementing these activities in my future teaching.

- Teacher Candidate
Queen's University BEd
Environmental Education

ACTIVITY REPORT



I felt calm because the nature was beautiful. Thanks, I needed that.
- Student, Grade 4/5
Rideau Vista Public School

HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2018/2019



PROJECT BEE

It was the beginning of something beautiful—and sweet! In May 2019, we built the 9th Meadow Apiary, 3 buzzing hives, and officially launched Project Bee, a 4-part workshop series to educate the community about the impact of pollinators, enhance local bee populations, and offer a sanctuary for honey bees at Wintergreen.

Project Bee wouldn't be possible without the instruction of Alex Pedersen and support from the Limestone Beekeepers' Guild. We are also grateful to the Community Foundation for Kingston and Area for the funding that launched this project.

LAND ART BIOBLITZ 2019



Our 5th Annual Land Art BioBlitz was another event for the books. We were able to offer workshops to 6 schools and 15 different classes/groups, with the generous support from our funders and volunteers. This year's workshop roster included drumming and mindful play, wild foraging, herpetology, and guided forest hikes. This 5-day event encouraged participants to slow down and meaningfully connect with the more-than-human world.

86

WORKSHOPS OFFERED

2,007

WORKSHOP PARTICIPANTS

532

SPECIES IDENTIFIED

WHAT IS WINTERGREEN?

bringing balance back

Wintergreen Studios is a year-round, off-grid, wilderness retreat centre, located on 204 acres in the Frontenac Arch Biosphere Reserve. We offer retreat facilities for groups and individuals looking to get away, as well as a wide variety of programming encompassing three sectors: education, culture, and the environment. Workshop topics range from poetry writing and painting to Indigenous teachings and drumming, as well as community events on renewable energy, species identification, and local biodiversity. Guests learn new skills, engage in mindful living, and return home feeling renewed and refreshed.



VOLUNTEERS

Ryan Benvenuti
Dan Blair
Jen Brahimaj
Maeve Brown
Jamie Campbell
Sharon Carr

Geoff Carter
Louise Cooper
Justin Connidis
Chris Cusimano
Julianna De Francesco
Gerry Dimnik

Jillian Glatt
Louise Good
Kristina Inrig
Stephanie Lafond
Kara MacIsaac
Lynn MacQuarrie

Julia McArthur
Holly Ogden
Alex Pedersen
Gary Raspberry
Hayden Raspberry
Lawrence Scanlan

Karen Smereka
Marta Straznicky
Shanshan Tian
Helen Turnbull
Rena Uptis
Zinta Uptis

DONORS

Susan Alexander
Karen Boese
Jo-Anne Brady
Sandra Campbell
Monica Capovilla
Peter Coughlin
Melanie Craig-Hansford
Lorna Crozier
Jennifer & Brian Davis
Gerry Dimnik & Rupen Seoni
Suzanne Doerge

Pierre & Julia du Prey
Matt Ellerbeck
Kevin & Maureen Fell
Dorina & Hannes Friedli
Dianne Goodyear
David Murphy Haglund & Birgit Scheicl
David Hahn & Marion Watkins
Susan Haldane-Ford
Micheal Hurley
Edward Hyland
Heather Kembel

Ian Kilborn
Kitchissippi United Church Ecological
Christianity Circle
Philomene Kocher
Kathryn MacDonald
Callista Markotich
Murdoch Matheson
Julia McArthur & Justin Connidis
Shelagh McDonald
Paul McKay
Ruth McKinney

Elizabeth Paulette-Coughlin
Richard Ryde
Ryan Small & Serena Manson
Karen Smereka & Jamie Campbell
Angela Solar
Karin Steiner
Mary-Alice Thompson & Paul Banfield
Helen Turnbull
Rena Uptis
Zigfrids Uptis
Susan Wismer



TD Friends of the
Environment
Foundation



PARTICIPACTION



Sustainable
EasternOntario.ca



CATARAQUI REGION
CONSERVATION AUTHORITY



WINTERGREEN
STUDIOS



www.wintergreenstudios.com | 613.273.8745 | info@wintergreenstudios.com