

WINTERGREEN STUDIOS

ANNUAL REPORT 2023



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Fire. I've been thinking about it a lot these days as wildfires ravage vast tracts of land throughout Canada and globally. This has been the hottest year on record and all indications are that we are only at the beginning of temperature extremes of all kinds.

Like most powerful things, fire has two sides. Yes, it can be destructive, and that aspect of fire's power is clearly evident—I'm writing this letter at a time when most of the people living in the Northwest Territories have been evacuated and thousands of homes in British Columbia have been destroyed. Human homes, yes, but also habitats for helpless animals, insects, and birds. And as many of you know, we also lost a building to fire this year.

But then I am reminded that fire is also a beautiful thing. We love having campfires at Wintergreen throughout the year. Sometimes we cook on outdoor fires (read on about the "Wild Kitchen" adventure that we took part in last fall). And then there is the Sacred Fire that features so prominently in the teachings of the Indigenous Knowledge Keepers.

As we begin our 17th year at Wintergreen, we aim to hold in balance both beauty and danger, knowing that in the complex space created in that balance, community is created and lessons are learned.

RENA UPITIS
President, Wintergreen Studios

STORIES AROUND THE FIRE



PHOENIX RISING!

We were deeply saddened by the loss of the Beach House in December of 2022. And then overwhelmed by the support of the Wintergreen community as we created anew! The Phoenix House is scheduled to welcome its first guests in late October.

WILD KITCHEN

Late in September we harvested honey from the 9th Meadow Apiary on the same weekend that a film crew arrived to shoot an episode of the soon-to-be-released series called *Wild Kitchen*. Chef Desh Fernando prepared a charcuterie board atop the Meadow Cliff Trail using said honey in various astonishing ways.



SNOW MOON FESTIVAL

On February 4, 2023 we hosted a vibrant winter event featuring music, food, snowshoeing, and a ring of fire bowls that not only kept people warm (well, OK, kept people from freezing on the coldest day of the year!). The fires also provided beautiful ambient light all afternoon and into the early hours of the evening.



BUILDING A SWEAT LODGE

In honour of truth and reconciliation, a small and strong community of people came together in May to build a sweat lodge and hold ceremony in the ceremonial space that is used year round by Indigenous Knowledge Keepers and members of the Wintergreen community.



2023

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS



WINTER TRACKS & TRACES



SNOW MOON FESTIVAL



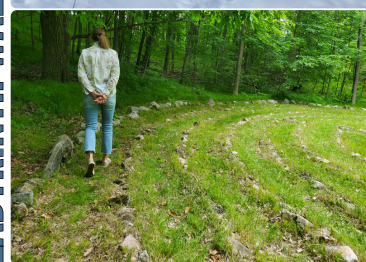
HONEY
EXTRACTION
& TASTING



4 SEASONS



LABYRINTH WALKS



POETRY WORKSHOPS
WITH LORNA CROZIER



CORDWOOD BEE SHED BUILDING

ACTIVITY REPORT

In the fiscal year leading up to the current report, the Board of Directors determined that it was time to decrease our emphasis on the private rentals and retreats that were so life-giving during the pandemic: the time had come to re-engage with on-site and in person events. That said, not all new activities developed during the pandemic were cut back: our Virtual Learning Centre grew in leaps and bounds as people experience Wintergreen from afar, exploring topics from Sound Ecology to Poetry to Electric Vehicles.

382%

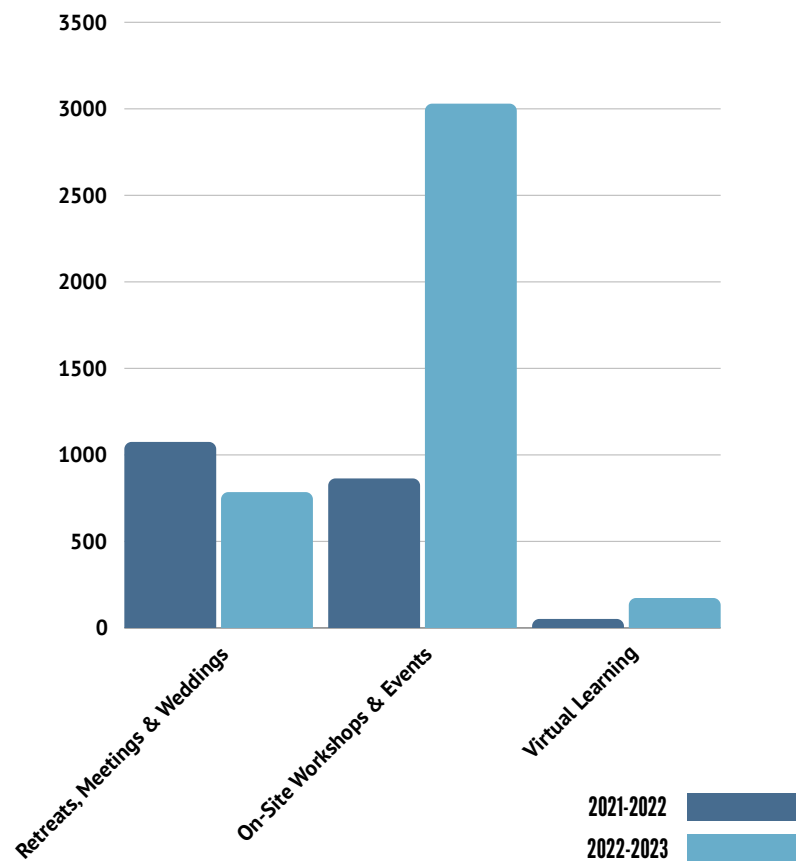
INCREASE IN ON-SITE WORKSHOPS & EVENTS

332%

INCREASE IN VIRTUAL LEARNING CENTRE STUDENTS

27%

DECREASE IN RENTALS & RETREATS



There is something truly magical about these woods. Our stay was a welcome reprieve from busy city life. The beaver dams, adventurous hikes, and fires under the starlight won't soon be forgotten anytime soon.

—Parthenon Guest



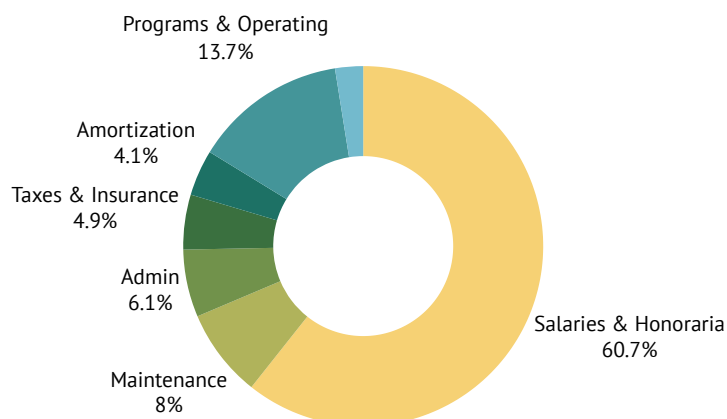
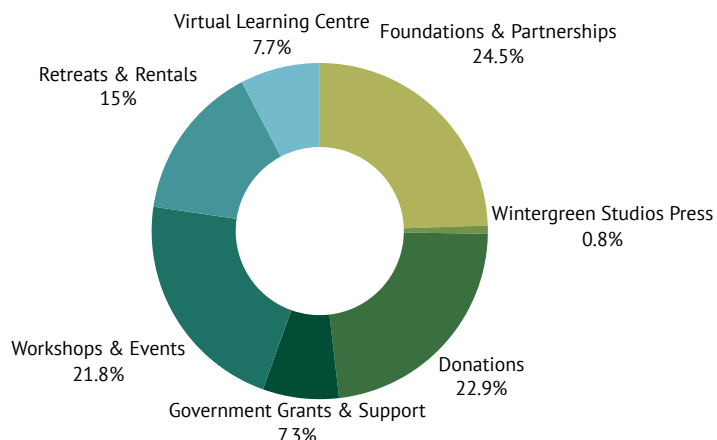
2023

FINANCIAL SUMMARY



REVENUE

\$301,594



EXPENDITURES

\$293,915

BALANCE SHEET

	2023	2022
Total Assets	\$571,882	\$594,648
Total Liability	\$277,360	\$302,047
Net Assets	\$294,522	\$292,601

INCOME STATEMENT

	2023	2022
Total Income	\$301,594	\$256,952
Total Expenses	\$293,915	\$234,960
Net Income	\$7,679	\$21,992

VOLUNTEERS & DONORS

Volunteers

Peter Bedoukian
Hilbert Buist
Monica Capovilla
Cathy Christie
Justin Connidis
Gerald Dimnik
Kate Freeman

Lana From
Luke Howie
Kristina Inrig
Janice (Kanonhsyonne) Hill
Jordan Kraegel
Corin Laflamme
Tim Lyon

David Murphy Haglund
Denise Neumann
Laurie Niven
Holly Ogden
Alexandra Pedersen
Danielle Picard
Lorrie Potvin

Gary Rasberry
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Larry Scanlan
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Marta Straznicky

Wes Tozer
Adam Turcotte
Helen Turnbull
Rena Upitis
Zinta Upitis
Alfred von Mirbach

Donors

*Major donors who gifted \$500+ to Wintergreen Studios in 2022-2023

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Susan Wismer*
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June Wright & Andrew Teteris

+ 1 anonymous donor!

