We acknowledge the territories of the Hesquiaht First Nation, Tla-o-qui-aht First Nations, Toquaht Nation, Ahousaht, and Yuutuʔitʔatḥ in the spirit of truth, healing, and reconciliation.
From the Co-chairs

Globally, regionally, and for our organization, 2020 was a year like no other. The pandemic brought an unprecedented chance for west coast communities to explore the strengths, but also the gaps and inequities, in the systems we all depend on. When business as usual stopped, the Clayoquot Biosphere Trust (CBT) found new opportunities to help meet the most critical needs of the region as a community foundation and UNESCO Biosphere.

The pre-lockdown spring began with exciting momentum. We hosted our first 100+ Women Who Care event, bringing together over 100 local women to raise more than $10,000 for the Ucluelet Secondary School in a single evening. We also held a series of community engagement sessions to co-create the design concept of the Biosphere Centre, bringing to life a community vision more than a decade in the making.

When the pandemic hit, we adapted our annual granting programs and coordinated the delivery of a range of emergency funding. This included the Community Giving Catalogue, a crowd-funding campaign through which private donors, most of whom live in our region, raised over $100,000 for local non-profit organizations. We also facilitated a range of pandemic-response conversations between communities, service providers, and non-profit organizations. Together with our donors and partners, we helped coordinate an inclusive COVID-19 response built upon strong relationships, trust, and generosity in our remote and rural region.

This year also marked 20 years since the Clayoquot Sound UNESCO Biosphere Region designation and the formation of the CBT. We completed our second 10-year periodic review, a self-study that provided a rich opportunity to reflect, learn, and re-engage with the First Nations, communities, and organizations whose work upholds the ongoing UNESCO designation. While we weren’t able to gather to celebrate our 20th anniversary, we’re proud of our work outlined in this annual report, and how it embodies the growth and learning of the CBT as an organization over the last two decades.

Alan McCarthy and Geoff Lyons
Co-chairs, Board of Directors, Clayoquot Biosphere Trust
Vision

The community of the Clayoquot Sound UNESCO Biosphere Region (CSBR) will live sustainably in a healthy ecosystem, with a diversified economy, and strong, vibrant, and united cultures, while embracing the Nuu-chah-nulth First Nations living philosophies of iisaak living respectfully, qwa’ aak qin tiič mis life in the balance, and hišukniš čawaak everything is one and interconnected.

Champions, change-makers, builders, stewards. Researchers, helpers, advocates, allies. We are a catalyst for positive change and a sustainable future.
COVID-19 Response

As an organization with relationships across sectors and communities in the biosphere region, and with connections to national and global networks, the CBT was uniquely positioned to develop programs that matched resources with local needs. This section highlights new pandemic-response initiatives. Programs that were adapted to COVID-19 are highlighted throughout the report.

Supporting Local Leaders

At the pandemic’s onset, the CBT established a weekly check-in Zoom call for non-profit leaders in our region. The check-ins were a safe and welcoming space where managers shared needs, concerns, and opportunities, and provided support to one another. The well-attended calls helped numerous organizations access resources so they could adapt operations during a time when the public health guidelines were rapidly changing and demand for services (e.g., food bank, mental health services) was increasing. The check-ins also laid the groundwork for the Giving Catalogue described below.

COVID-19 Response Community Giving Catalogue

In the spring, then again in late fall, the CBT ran two highly successful online Giving Catalogue crowdfunding campaigns. The initiatives raised more $100,000 over the year for 20 local registered charities and addressed a range of social and environmental priorities. Donors, most of whom live in the region, reviewed the needs of our region and made their donations. The CBT covered the administrative work, allowing the charities to focus their time and effort on programming. The CBT also sourced matching funds from the Vancouver Foundation and other private donors for parts of the campaign, maximizing impact across the region. With the average donor giving to two or more charities, participating organizations advanced not just their own causes, but the needs of the region more broadly. We’re grateful for all the donors and partners who made this truly collaborative fundraising initiative a success.

Emergency Community Support Fund

The CBT served as the local delivery partner in two rounds of the federal Emergency Community Support Fund (ECSF), helping ensure that the $70,000 of funding was delivered where it was most urgently needed. (Read about the first round and second round of projects.) Additionally, the CBT helped connect a private donor to projects requesting funding in round two so that all eligible projects received full funding. The local delivery of the ECSF was part of the Government of Canada’s $350-million initiative to help community organizations adapt frontline services to better meet the needs of vulnerable people during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Transportation Support

Our vast and sparsely populated region faces unique transportation challenges, with multiple isolated communities that are only accessible by boat or by a gravel forestry road. Many of the inequalities highlighted by the pandemic are associated with transportation costs and accessibility barriers, with outlying communities facing a significant disadvantage. The CBT was able to target $22,000 to address transportation needs in the region, including those related to schools, First Nations, and a range of charities. The transportation support reduced barriers to accessing services and also allowed organizations to deliver programs where they were most needed.

Thank you to Clayoquot Biosphere Trust for their community connections. The CBT works hard to nurture relationships with many like-minded organizations, individuals, and businesses. We wouldn’t be able to do our “Double your Dollars” fundraiser without the CBT who connected us with our generous anonymous community donors matching all donations up to $35,000! Thank you also to CBT for administering this matching campaign.

– Mark Maftei, Executive Director

Non-profit spotlight: Raincoast Education Society

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Co-leading Sustainability Research, Education, and Training

Sydney Inlet Soundscape Monitoring Program

With support from Canada’s Department of Fisheries and Oceans and permission from Ahousaht, the CBT is leading a multi-year acoustic ecology project in a remote inlet in Clayoquot Sound. Soundscape ecology examines the sounds of an ecosystem to learn about the presence and activity of species (including humans) in an ecosystem, and relationships among them.

Our research team (Ha’oom Fisheries, Dr. Jim Darling, Benj Youngson, Josie Byington) made exciting progress in 2020. They recorded, analyzed, and increased our understanding of natural sounds, human-made noise, and their intersection at important feeding habitats for at-risk marine mammals. Through this project, we are continuing to learn about the ecological importance of sound in ecosystems such as Sydney Inlet.

Think of soundscape ecology as “eavesdropping” on an ecosystem. It’s completely non-invasive, giving us an idea of what’s going on in the ecosystem when we, the researchers, aren’t there. Both above and below water, soundscapes give us insights about species diversity and behaviour that we’d never be able to see. Our data collected this first year provides a baseline that we can compare to future recordings and look for seasonal trends to inform future decision-making in the area.

– Benj Youngson, Program Manager

UNESCO Periodic Review

When Clayoquot Sound became a UNESCO Biosphere Region in 2000, local communities committed to finding a sustainable balance between conserving cultural diversity, natural ecosystems, and biodiversity, and fostering sound economic development. Every 10 years, we step back and reflect on our shared effort to achieve this balance as our communities and ecosystems change.

The year marked 20 years since the UNESCO designation, and the start of our second periodic review process. Our team completed a self-study report, reflecting on the changes, challenges, and successes in our region over the past decade, and the CBT’s work within the context of the biosphere designation. With nearly 20 illuminating Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) case studies and 87 letters of support from partners, the periodic review provided a rich opportunity to reflect, learn, and re-engage with First Nations, communities, and organizations whose work upholds the UNESCO designation.

Leadership Vancouver Island (LVI) Community of Practice

In fall 2020, LVI alumni from the past five cohorts joined a Vital Conversation on regenerative tourism and how to collaborate and learn from one another by building a “community of practice.” The diverse group met for thoughtful conversation inspired by the summer of 2020, when west coasters felt deep tensions arise from high numbers of visitors during a global pandemic. Guest teachers included local health care professionals, Nuu-chah-nulth cultural leaders and healers, and other community leaders. Coming from different communities, cultures, and fields of work, the alumni and teachers brought diverse experiences to the table and were united by the common language and collaborative values of LVI.

Academic Partnerships

In 2020, the CBT engaged in several formal academic partnerships:

- **University of Washington Tacoma** – marine water quality monitoring/oceanography.
- **Royal Roads University** – NSERC PromoScience Program; co-supervised masters thesis research on sustainable watershed governance in the Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District.
- **University of British Columbia, Office of Regional and International Engagement** – advised a comparative study on sustainable tourism in Whistler and Tofino, British Columbia, and Canmore, Alberta.
- **Saint Mary’s University, Nova Scotia** – contributed to the Community Conservation Research Network and the International Union for Conservation of Nature publication “Communities, Conservation, and Livelihoods.”
Facilitating & Coordinating
Healthy Community and Ecosystem Initiatives

Emergency Food Security Coordination

The CBT’s food security initiative, Eat West Coast, played a central role in coordinating logistics, planning, and funding for local food security projects, as food access is shown to be a significant regional vulnerability. With funding from the United Way and MakeWay, the CBT worked with community champions to ensure everyone had food on their table throughout the pandemic despite community closures and travel restrictions. We also helped to increase local food supply by supporting wild food harvesters and guardians, and food production through the gift of backyard garden kits. As we moved out of emergency response mode, we’re learning from our experience to ensure our region is more food secure when faced with future challenges.

Network partner spotlight: Food Bank on the Edge

The pandemic dramatically changed the way our clients accessed the food bank. In spite of serious ongoing security challenges in our region, walk-in visits actually dropped during lockdowns. The CBT provided valuable logistic support to help local food security organizations and volunteers ensure food got to where it was most needed in our region’s geographically isolated communities in 2020.

– Cris Martin, Executive Director

COVID-19 Responsive Neighbourhood Small Grants

The pandemic hit just before the spring cycle of our popular Neighbourhood Small Grants (NSG) program, through which any community member can receive up to $500 for small projects that foster community connectivity. We quickly adapted the criteria to reduce social isolation while maintaining COVID-19 safety protocols. With isolation at its peak, we weren’t sure if community members would be ready to plan and lead projects. We were inspired by what we saw: enthusiasm, creativity, and compassion embodied through 56 projects from across our region. We were grateful for a special contribution from the District of Tofino to support Tofino-based projects, as well as funding from MakeWay to support grassroots projects that addressed food security. As always, we are grateful for our partner Westcoast Community Resources Society for helping us deliver this initiative.

NSG Program spotlight: We want to thank you so much.

In the spring, the Treble Sparrows (local youth choir), with the assistance of music teachers Sophie L’Homme and Julia Simmerling, and videographer Mark McKeough, recorded a song to say thank you to all the frontline workers who made residents feel safe and loved during those uncertain times. While the singers recorded their performance at home Sophie says, “it was very clear that we were together at heart”.

Watch their video here!
Empowering Youth

Education Awards
In partnership with Genus Capital Management, the CBT give two $12,000 education awards annually. The awards are made based on community involvement, personal reference letters, a proposed education plan, and academic achievement.

Mark Frank Perry from Ahousaht received the Central Region Nuu-chah-nulth Student award to support his studies in business at the University of Victoria. A highly involved community member, Mark was a member of Maaqtusiis Secondary School student council and focused on making the school livelier and more fun. He is also a member of the Ahousaht cultural group and did an internship with CBT. Mark says he wants his education to benefit everyone, and his goals include helping to start community-run businesses and working in local public administration.

Youth Hangouts
Through the Coastal Family Resource Coalition (see page 13), the CBT supported a series of online youth gatherings during the pandemic. It was clear that youth, who typically connect through school, sports, and other programs, were feeling the challenges of the pandemic in a unique way. The hangouts were also attended by a youth worker who facilitated discussions about mental health, the pandemic, and other youth priorities.

Youth-led Neighbourhood Small Grants
The CBT makes special efforts to help young people participate in our Neighbourhood Small Grants program (read more about NSG on page 7). In 2020, there were seven youth-led NSG projects in four different communities. Thirteen-year-old Tofino resident Eva Wickham—who is also a member of our NSG committee and helps evaluate grants—led a creative project that helped support and connect youth with elders during the pandemic. She and other local youth explored their community and practiced taking photos of the beauty around them. Eva then turned these photos into cards and mailed them to elders in the community to help combat social isolation and loneliness.

Eva says, "I wanted to do something that gives back to the community and allows me to practice and develop my interest in photography." Way to go Eva! You can hear Eva talk more about her project here.

Trinity Clark from Ucluelet received the Clayoquot Biosphere Education Award and is studying social sciences at the University of Victoria. Trinity is also an Ahousaht member and graduated from Ucluelet Secondary School (USS) in 2020. In addition to her strong academic record, Trinity has dedicated countless hours to the service of west coast communities, helping to organize and support initiatives at USS, in Ucluelet, and the region as a whole. Trinity is naturally curious about the world and plans to narrow her focus through her education, with the goal of working with and helping people around her.

NSG spotlight: Eva Wickham
Achieving the Biosphere Centre

Following the purchase of a property in Tofino in 2019, the CBT made steady progress in the process to establish a Biosphere Centre: a community hub that supports learning, connecting, and sharing ideas through innovative programs, and, ultimately, solutions that benefit all people in our region. We envision a welcoming space, where residents, visitors, and researchers feel equally comfortable, and where scientists and storytellers can share their valuable data and teachings.

Early in the year, we held a small ceremony on the land with Tla-o-qui-aht cultural worker Seitchmulthnee (Chris Seitcher) and his son Hayden to positively prepare for the work ahead. We were also able to engage in-person with community members, neighbours, partner organizations, and our regional board of directors for a series of design sessions. With hearts and minds engaged, we imagined how the vision could take form as a physical building, co-creating the first architectural drawings of the facility with MOTIV Architects.

In the fall, our zoning bylaw amendment application unanimously passed its first reading by the District of Tofino Council and we’ll be continuing the rezoning process throughout 2021.

You can learn more about the Biosphere Centre initiative on our website.

West Coast NEST

Despite massive changes for the tourism sector, our region’s education tourism initiative, the West Coast NEST, advanced education for sustainable development in exciting new ways that provided revenue and awareness for local organizations and businesses. NEST also developed new partnerships with the Government of Canada Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) Unit, and Royal Roads University. Major achievements in 2020 include:

Increasing local awareness of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals

Local knowledge of the SDGs supports our region’s efforts to work toward and achieve peace and prosperity for all people and the planet by 2030. In 2020, we promoted the SDGs through:

- a series of training workshops for individuals, communities, businesses, and governments
- a photo contest, youth colouring contests, and social media campaigns
- an ESRI StoryMap about local SDG initiatives

Helping local organizations to pivot to creating online curriculum:

- led a free educational filmmaking course for local organizations
- collaborative, multi-media project highlighting regional marine-based research projects for youth, families, and middle and high school teachers

Hosting and promoting online learning opportunities:

- promoted over 30 partner organizations and their online learning opportunities
- hosted a virtual west coast knitting retreat

“I was extremely impressed with the online 2020 west coast knitting retreat and loved the opportunity to challenge my knitting skills and learn a new technique as a virtual visitor to the region.”

– Carol H., Rosedale, BC

“This [StoryMap] project helped develop our team’s digital skills and storytelling abilities through a platform we have never used before. The skills and creative process we learned by doing StoryMaps will be extremely applicable in various future projects.”

– Karyssa Arnett, Strawberry Isle Marine Research Society
2020 Grants by numbers

- Total project funding: **$406,702**
- Number of local projects funded: **107**
- Number of local organizations funded: **37**
- Estimated in-kind leveraged: **$269,372**
- Estimated partner contributions: **$234,964**

Specific Pandemic Response funding:
- Additional Pandemic Response Funding: **$199,328**
- Vital Grants: **$55,000**
- Youth & Education: **$45,350**
- Research & Environment: **$35,000**
- Community Development: **$32,250**
- Neighbourhood Small Grants: **$26,774**
- Arts & Culture: **$13,000**

*Including: Neighbourhood Small Grants, Emergency Community Support Funding, Giving Catalogue, Transportation Funding*
We recognize the contributions that all CBT grant recipients make to the UNESCO Biosphere designation. Many grants were made early in the year and we supported grantees to ensure they could adapt their projects to meet the needs of their organization and the community, while complying with public health guidelines. Our top priorities were to be a highly flexible and responsive grant-making organization.

### Arts and Culture Grants
- Aeriosa Dance Society – Tofino Tree Festival
- Carving on the Edge Festival Society – Nuučaan̓ut hıits cik yak
- Tofino Clayoquot Heritage Society – Tofino/Clayoquot arts and culture audio walking map
- Wickaninnish Community School – After-school central dialect language program

### Community Development Grants
- Tla-o-qui-aht First Nations – Cancer/debilitating-illness support group
- Tofino General Hospital – Language walk
- Toquaht Nation – Toquaht food security: food preservation project
- Westcoast Community Resources Society – Free counselling clinic

### Research and Environment Grants
- BC Conservation Foundation – WildSafeBC Pacific Rim 2020
- Central Westcoast Forest Society – Centennial Creek restoration project
- Strawberry Isle Marine Research Society – Sea star stewardship program
- Wetland Stewards of Clayoquot and Barkley Sounds – Tracking road mortality and population trends of amphibians

### Youth and Education Grants
- Junior Achievement British Columbia – Bright Futures for Clayoquot Sound Biosphere Region
- Maaqtsis Secondary School – Maaqtsis School YES programming
- Pacific Rim Hospice Society – Child/Youth grief program
- Wild Pacific Trail Society – Wild Pacific Trail young naturalist program

### Vital Grants
- Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District – Actioning community priorities around food and agriculture
- Tla-o-qui-aht First Nations – Reconciliation-in-Action: increasing tribal parks allies engagement through outreach and education

**COVID-19 response projects**

- 56 Neighbourhood Small Grants
- 5 Education Awards
- 0 Youth and Education Awards
- 0 Vital Grants
The Pacific Rim Hospice Society has worked closely with the CBT during the COVID-19 pandemic. The CBT has been incredibly supportive by allowing flexibility in how we spent a grant they had previously given us allowing our clinical counsellor to provide COVID-19 counselling to any community member in need. This service was very well-utilized by community members in distress. Additionally, the CBT recognized how helpful it was in early spring to gather community leaders weekly in virtual meetings in order to share opportunities, learnings, and ways to cope with the uncertainty facing all of us. The CBT has been the glue holding community service providers together.

– Tarni Jacobsen, Executive Director

Emergency Community Support Fund

CARE Network – Emergency animal control in underserved Indigenous Communities
Health & Safety
Pacific Rim Hospice – Older adult and service provider needs assessment/gap analysis
Seaview Seniors Housing Society – Forest Glen emergency gathering and warming centre
Strawberry Isle Marine Research Society – Ocean literacy development program
Surfrider Foundation – Addressing and collecting the proliferation of waste from the pandemic
West Coast Community Resources Society – Regular radio guest appearances of a local physician and other service providers
Westcoast Community Resources Society – Working Toward Wellness Together
WildsafeBC – Addressing the need for better waste management in the region
Regional Programs

The CBT is home to a number of regional programs including Leadership Vancouver Island, the Coastal Family Resource Coalition, and West Coast NEST. By taking on the critical, but time-consuming administrative tasks, we help partner networks and initiatives focus on their missions in areas where there is strong alignment with the CBT’s mandate.

Leadership Vancouver Island

This community-focused, grassroots leadership development program inspires and builds capacity among our residents for leadership, learning, and service, under the direction of a local steering committee and in partnership with Vancouver Island University.

We are proud of the LVI participants and leadership team for pivoting to an all-digital format. (Before the pandemic, monthly learning days were held in all seven communities in the biosphere region.) All group projects were completed and all 15 participants graduated from the program, in spite of many personal and professional challenges. Way to go LVI class of 2020!

“ar favourite thing about LVI was the relationships we made. We were all rooting for each other and knew we had this support. I’m grateful for this safe space. It helped me grow so much—especially with my public speaking, which I used to dread! I now feel much stronger and comfortable representing my Nation (Yuułu ił ath), especially saying welcome prayers, with all the lessons I have learned.”

Participant spotlight: Samantha Touchie sicqwu-əł

Coastal Family Resource Coalition

The CFRC is an interdisciplinary network of west coast service providers that develops capacity to address the needs of children, youth, families, and communities, and to improve communications between service providers, agencies, communities, and funders. With the goal to improve the overall health in our communities, the missions of the CBT and the CFRC align—facilitating the sharing of knowledge and experience to achieve social and cultural sustainable development.

The onset of the pandemic in early 2020 resulted in an increased need for collaboration and emergency response among public health service providers in the region.

The CFRC:

• increased the frequency of its meetings and saw higher attendance resulting in a more cohesive and inclusive regional response;
• supported the formation of the West Coast Seniors Working Group;
• supported the publication of a public health resource guide; and
• coordinated resources for youth and families, such as a remote youth hangout and a family resources hour on the radio.

Network Partner spotlight: Alberni Clayoquot Regional Health Network

“The pandemic highlighted the need for regional health service providers to communicate effectively and bring forward priorities. CFRC meetings were an opportunity to coordinate efforts of local agencies and communities, ensuring a nimble response to community needs, identification of recovery priorities, and the ability to bring attention to long-standing inequities. This information and collaboration from 2020 are invaluable as we move forward in local and regional efforts to build back better in years to come.”

– Marcie Dewitt, Coordinator
Thank you for Giving

Our 2020 donors join a group of committed funders who invest in our region through their donations, grants to our program, or in-kind contributions. We thank each of our donors for placing your trust in us to effectively manage and steward these funds.

- Brooke Wood
- Conor and Christie Mackenzie
- Christine Skucas
- of Vancouver Island Foundation (Canada)
- Barb Gudbranson
- Charitable Impact
- Barb Cannon
- Chad Ford
- Anonymous
- Celina Horn
- Andrea Tovell
- Andrea Pitch
- Anna Bichel
- Anne Weeks
- Anonymous
- Barb Hansen
- Bob Macdonald
- Brett Grim
- Brody Pigeau
- Brooke Wood
- Bruce Baugh
- Buchanan & Matthew Wall
- Candace Baile
- Candace Picco
- Carol Sedgwick
- Carole Gagne
- Carolyn Corlazzoli
- Carne Marshall
- Cathy Bernard
- Celia Horn
- Chap Ford
- Charitable Impact Foundation (Canada)
- Charming Lam
- Children’s Health Foundation of Vancouver Island
- Christine Siuca
- Clayoquot Biosphere Trust Society
- Community Foundations of Canada
- Conor and Christie Mackenzie
- Corene Inouye
- Crab Apple Campground
- Cris Martin
- Dan Harrison
- Darcy Dobell
- Darryn Brown
- David Floodyna
- Daylight Cannabis Company
- Decoda Literacy Solutions Society
- Dena Bruno
- Denise Stys-Neumann
- Dennis Morgan
- Diane Hanskapk
- Diane Lindholm
- District of Tofino
- District of Ucluelet
- Elin Grip
- Emily Coombs
- Emily Fulton
- Emma Paveley
- Enid & Zelig Hurwitz
- Epic Pharmacy
- Erica Daley
- Erika Gold
- Erika Lok
- Eveline Stokkink
- Faye Mosaic
- Gale Johnson
- Genus Capital Management Inc.
- Gordon Nelson
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- Green Room Body Co.
- Gregor Robertson
- Harbour Health Integrated Therapies Heather Baxter
- Heather Bottenli
- Heather Riddick
- Heidi MacPherson
- Jacinthe Amoy
- Jacey Challenger
- Jacqueline Baynes
- Janice Lore
- Janine Croxall
- Jaye Herbert
- Jeanne Keith-Ferris
- Jen Pulonen
- Jennifer Bauer
- Jennifer Hoar
- Jennifer Livesey
- Jennifer Price-Francis
- Jennifer Yakimishyn
- Jeremy Wallace
- Joanne Streetly
- Jody Kirk
- John Reid-Hrsko
- John Nikiako
- John-Paul Harrison
- Jolen Schier
- Jolen Arsenaught
- Joshua Temple
- Josie Osborne
- Joy and Rod Davis
- Jack Greig
- Judi Andrew
- Judy Gray
- Julie Corlazzoli
- Julie Wilson
- Karla Strickland
- Katherine Thomas
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- Kelly Simonson
- Kim Hoag
- Kimberly Clark
- Kirsten Johnsen
- Kyle Meagher
- Lance Deslak
- Lara Kemps
- Laura Loucks
- Laurie Gehrke
- Leah Ungstad
- Lester Mitchell
- Lilia Noe
- Lilian Trousdell
- Lisa Fletcher
- Lisa Hasse
- Lochie Mackenzie
- Long Biosh Recreation Co-op
- Lucia Lyons
- Lynda Kayes
- Lynette Dawson- Summerfeld
- Makeway
- Mandal Smudlers
- Maple Leaf Centre for Action
- on Food Security
- Marcel Bouma
- Marcie DeWitt
- Marcus Fuller
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- Margaret McClean
- Margaret Morrison
- Marjorie Bowman
- Mark Sawyer
- Matt Dawson
- Megan Fraser
- Mike DeMille
- Nanaimo Foundation
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- Ian Robert Brown
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- Sabrina Donnan
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- Samantha Fyleris
- Sandra Ashby
- Sandra Rideout
- Sandy Corlazzoli
- Sarah Bellard Tyne
- Sarah Timberlake
- Sea View Seniors Housing Society
- Shane Oregan
- Shannon McWhinney
- Shift Strategy + Design Inc.
- Shirley Martin
- Silva Johansson
- Sophia Keller
- Stephanie Hughes
- Sue Courtin
- Susan Payne
- Susan Spencer
- Tammy Dorward
- Tammy Shymko
- Tanis Jacobsen
- The J.W. McConnell Family Foundation
- The Studio Ucluelet Yoga + Fitness Corporation
- Timothy Chapgar
- Toby Fraser
- Tolino Fish Guides Ltd.
- Tolino Nature Kids
- Tolino Resort + Marina Inc.
- Tourism Tolino
- United Way Central & Northern Vancouver Island Foundation
- Victoria Foundation
- William Mitchell
- Yoga Club with Angie Members
- Yoshie Bancroft
- Zoe Rodoncach

Looking back on 2020, our 100+ Women Who Care event in February was one of my highlights. Thank you to each of the 105 women who joined together to demonstrate our dedication to communities and ecosystems. I’m proud of how we worked as one to meet that goal and so thankful that we spent the evening together. As my kids would say, it really filled my bucket. This social gathering was more significant than we knew at the time given we haven’t able to meet like this since. You can trust that another 100+ women gathering will be a high priority as soon as we’re able to host events safely!

– Rebecca Hurwitz, CBT executive director

A founding contribution from the Government of Canada has supported the CBT programs and grants since our beginning in 2000. We are grateful for their investment in our region through the gift of the Canada Fund, a $12-million endowment.

We apologize for any omissions. Please advise us of any errors or changes.
Ways to give

A donation to the CBT makes meaningful and lasting impacts in areas that are important to you. From arts and culture to research, from education to the environment, donors and funders come to us to help simplify and enhance their charitable giving in the region.

The CBT's nine endowment funds include:
- Biosphere Centre Fund
- Biosphere Research Fund
- CBT Operating Endowment Fund
- Clayoquot Sound Wild Salmon Fund
- Fish for the Future Fund
- Pacific Rim Foundation Fund
- Tofino Children’s Swimming and Water Safety Fund
- Tofino Community Fund
- West Coast N.E.S.T. Fund

Today for tomorrow

Fossil Fuel Free Investing

The pooled endowment funds of the CBT are invested in partnership with Genus Capital Management, a pioneer in Canada’s divest-invest movement. Genus ensures our funds are not invested in the fossil fuel industry or other socially and environmentally harmful industries, aligning our investments with our long-standing commitment to living sustainably. Genus includes an SDG lens in their investment criteria, working to ensure the investments that drive the local impact of our foundation also advance SDGs in the wider world.

If you have questions about leaving a lasting legacy, whether through contributing to a fund or starting your own, our executive director, Rebecca Hurwitz, would be pleased to meet with you. As a donor, you can work with the CBT to identify your philanthropic goals, matching your interests with community data and needs.

Learn more about giving.
Both of these networks have embraced the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to guide efforts and monitor progress.

The SDGs provide a useful framework that allow us to draw connections between the health of ecosystems and communities in the CSUBR. At the CBT, we have known since our inception that thriving communities and thriving ecosystems go hand in hand, guided by the Nuu-chah-nulth philosophy of hišukniš čawaak everything is one and interconnected.

The CBT is the only organization in Canada that is both a community foundation and a UNESCO biosphere.

Creating a better future through biosphere stewardship, philanthropy, and community building.

Photo credits: Marcie Callewaert, Melody Charlie Photography, Sander Jain Photography, Douglas Ludwig Photography, Nora Morrison, Ocean Simone Shine

The CBT is one of Canada’s 191 community foundations.

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clayoquotbiosphere
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