



WILDSIGHT INVERMERE

ANNUAL REPORT

January 31, 2023



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MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD CHAIR

Each spring, as we prepare for our AGM, the valley resonates with the welcome sound of hundreds of migratory birds. For me, it's an impetus to pay attention. It's a reminder that we humans are not the only species that need a healthy landscape, clean air, and clear, flowing water to thrive.

For Wildsight Invermere, 2022 was another fruitful year, thanks to community support. Our efforts continue to focus on three strategic areas: Community, Climate and Conservation. We carried out an ambitious program called Fire & Ice with ten events that investigated our changing landscape and how the climate emergency will further impact the Columbia Valley. These days, with the increasing stresses of wildfires, drought, and climate change, we know that we must pay even closer attention to our actions and the way we walk on this earth.

In 2022, the groundwork was laid for a multi-year program: the Columbia Lake Bighorn Sheep Biodiversity & Conservation Project. Besides gathering scientific data through regular monitoring, it's also a celebration of the unique beauty and diversity of our Columbia headwaters ecosystem. By fostering a sense of stewardship and shared responsibility, we can create a lasting impact on wildlife conservation.

As I step down from the Board of Directors after 11 years as its Chair, please be assured that I'm not going anywhere. I will remain engaged in Wildsight Invermere in many ways because I'm fully committed to protecting, nurturing and caring for this special place I call home.

See you out there,
Baiba Morrow

COMMUNITY, CONSERVATION, CLIMATE

WILD CONNECTIONS

Wild Connections, our core program area, aims to foster a culture of environmental stewardship in our community through public education, hands-on events, and workshops.

The impacts of extreme weather events and disasters fuelled by climate change continue to be the great challenges of our time. This means that the pressure on sensitive alpine and subalpine areas, forests, grasslands, and wetlands is exacerbated.

We believe that a better understanding of environmental issues will inspire citizens to take action and live in mutual reciprocity with nature.

Wildsight Invermere offers a community service not addressed by any other local NGO.



INSPIRE, EDUCATE, ENGAGE

COMMUNITY, CONSERVATION, CLIMATE

I. COMMUNITY

Support and build an environmentally resilient, healthy, and educated community

9th Annual Wild & Scenic Film Festival

Thank you to everyone for supporting our annual fund raising event! Through ticket sales, a silent auction and sponsorships, we raised \$16,147. Over 300 people attended the evening of 13 films.

- Community Sponsorships \$10,750
- Online Auction \$5,724
- Added Donations \$320
- New memberships sold: 59
- Net Profit \$16,147



BC Rivers Day

In partnership with Lake Windermere Ambassadors, 16 enthusiastic paddlers floated from Invermere to Radium on September 25 in this annual celebration of our waterways.



Vanishing BigHorns

The transformative power of art can ignite action and raise awareness. In collaboration with Wildsight Golden and CV Arts, the Vanishing BigHorns exhibit is a reminder of the challenges that wildlife face when trying to co-exist with humans and more specifically, that bighorn sheep are vanishing throughout western Canada.



E-Bike Raffle

A successful combination of promoting emissions-free transportation alternatives for a healthy lifestyle and a fund raiser of \$5,888. Ride on!

COMMUNITY, CONSERVATION, CLIMATE

II. CONSERVATION

Protect and conserve our local natural environment and species to ensure that thriving resilient ecosystems endure into the future

Old Growth Forests

In response to the concerns voiced by community members about the state of our forests and logging in old growth areas, we organized several meet ups. The aim was to foster dialogue, gather insights, and collectively work towards addressing the challenges faced by our forests and promoting their sustainable management.

Lake Enid Restoration

Lake Enid Restoration - To continue our conservation efforts we are partnering with Recreation Sites and Parks BC to construct fencing to protect an impacted section of the park. Due to technical issues, this will continue into 2023.

Wilmer Wetlands

We are proud of the success of the interpretive signs (installed in 2021). We are members of the Columbia Wetlands Stewardship Partners and work together to preserve the wetlands' biodiversity and natural balance.

Columbia Lake Bighorn Sheep Biodiversity & Conservation Project

Start of a multi-year project to ensure that this blue-listed species at risk has a chance to thrive. The project seeks to create a sense of unity and collaboration among community members as we embark on a collective effort to gather monitoring data that will enhance our understanding of these majestic creatures.



COMMUNITY, CONSERVATION, CLIMATE

III. CLIMATE

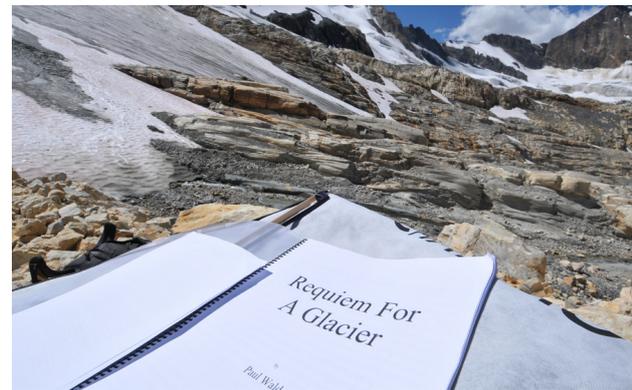
Raise awareness and engagement on climate change actions, informed by current science and based on best practices.

Fire & Ice

Fire & Ice was an interactive community engagement and education program featuring 10 events that explored how climate change is impacting our landscape, as well as its human and animal inhabitants. Designed to highlight two of the most visible and visceral consequences of climate change — forest fires and melting glaciers — the immersive events and activities demonstrated the importance of taking action to protect the wild spaces and species of our region.

EV Show

During our third annual electric vehicle show, a diverse range of EVs took the spotlight, including Wildsight's own innovation, Spark—the Electric Vehicle Car Share. This provided the 120 attendees with the unique opportunity to get acquainted with Spark and other EVs to learn more about owning and driving an electric car. Thanks to Cleanline Automotive for helping out.

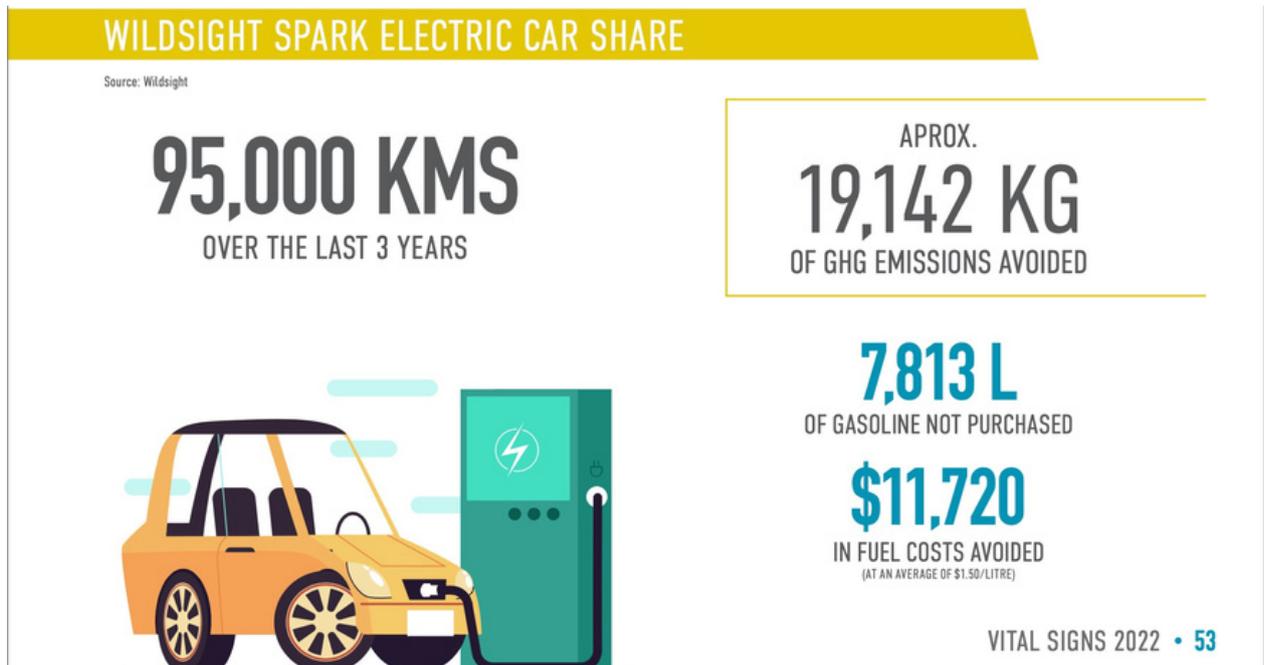


SPARK RURAL CANADA'S FIRST ALL-ELECTRIC VEHICLE SHARE



- 1 CHEVY BOLT
- 120 REGISTERED USERS
- NEW BATTERY IN 2022
- NEW SKI RACK
- NEW BIKE RACK
- STARTED IN 2020

FROM THE COLUMBIA VALLEY VITAL SIGNS 2022 REPORT



Wildsight Invermere officially launched SPARK in 2020. Having an EV share in the Columbia Valley allows residents and visitors alike to try out an EV and have all of their usage and maintenance questions answered before leaping to purchase – an enormous advantage given that an EV represents a serious investment for many. For both individuals and businesses, it is an opportunity to drive emissions-free and contribute to a carbon-free future.

TRY IT OUT! GOSPARK.CA

OUR COMMUNITY

Wildsight Invermere members are the backbone of the organization, from the engaged volunteer Board of Directors, to all those who support the work, read our newsletters, attend events and speak out on issues.

Our members care about the natural world and want a resilient, healthy environment into the future. We thank you for inspiring us and supporting us with your time, energy, and donations!



ENGAGED, PASSIONATE AND SUPPORTIVE

**WILDSIGHT INVERMERE MEMBERS ARE
THE BACKBONE OF THE ORGANIZATION**

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

COLUMBIA BASIN ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION NETWORK (CBEEN)
COLUMBIA WETLANDS STEWARDSHIP PARTNERS
EAST KOOTENAY INVASIVE SPECIES COUNCIL
GROUNDSWELL NETWORK
INVERMERE PUBLIC LIBRARY
KOOTENAY CONSERVATION PROGRAM
KTUNAXA NATION
LAKE WINDERMERE AMBASSADORS
LAKE WINDERMERE DISTRICT ROD AND GUN CLUB
LIVING LAKES CANADA
RECREATION SITES AND TRAILS BC
SHUSWAP BAND
WILDSAFE BC
WILDSIGHT REGIONAL AND THE OTHER 5 BRANCHES
WINGS OVER THE ROCKIES



OUR TEAM

BOARD OF DIRECTORS & STAFF



BAIBA MORROW
BOARD CHAIR



CAM GILLIES
VICE PRESIDENT



JESSIE CAZA
SECRETARY |
EDUCATOR



TAOYA SCHAEFER
DIRECTOR



TRACY FLYNN
DIRECTOR



BEN TREGIDGO
TREASURER



KAREN BARKLEY
BRANCH MANAGER



KAT GRAVES
CLIMATE CHANGE RESILIENCE
COORDINATOR (POSITION
ENDED MARCH 2022)



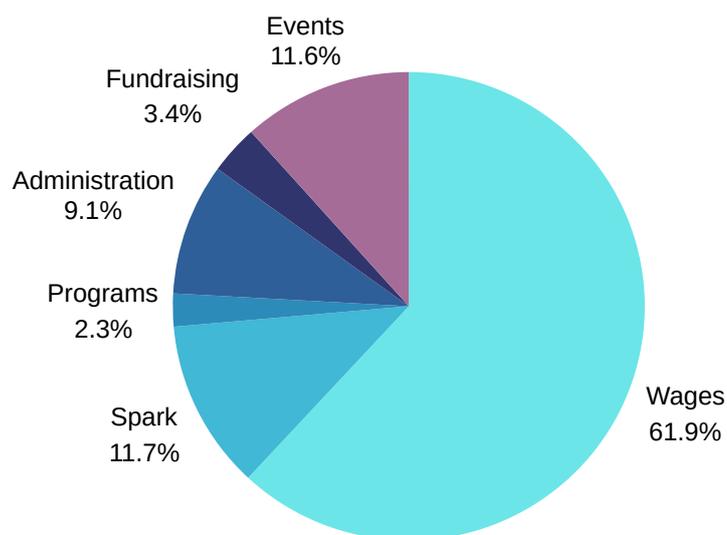
LIANNA FURGESON
PROGRAM COORDINATOR
MARCH- DEC 2022



FINANCIALS- january 31, 2023

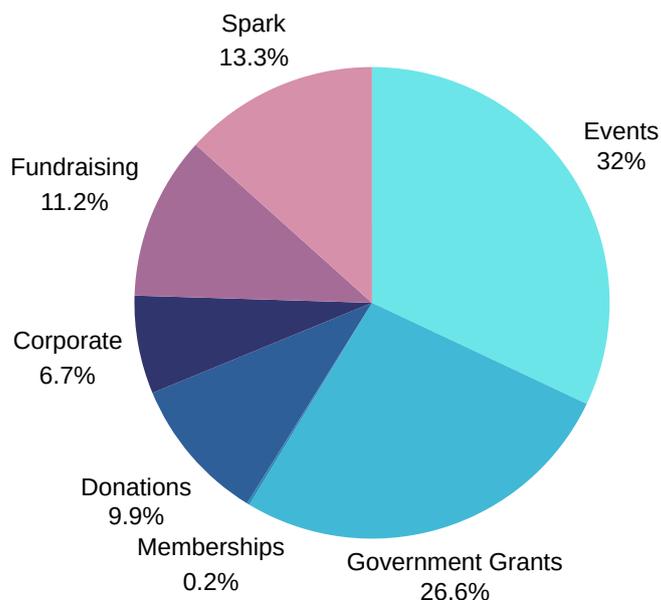
PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR COMPLETE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

EXPENSES



\$79,512

REVENUE



\$85,418

WITH GRATITUDE TO OUR 2022 FUNDERS & SUPPORTERS



Thanks to our 2022 Wild & Scenic Festival Sponsors



VISIONARY



CATALYST

Collective Carpentry - Invermere Optometry Clinic
Kootenay Mountain Culture Magazine

LEADER

Basecamp Innovations - Copper City Dental - Copper City Physical Therapy
Dr. Mike Baker ND - Diana Lake Lodge - Juniper Heights Healing -
Kicking Horse Coffee - Palliser Printing - The Brick - Winderberry

THANK YOU TO ALL COMMUNITY MEMBERS WHO SUPPORTED WILDSIGHT INVERMERE IN 2022, ESPECIALLY THOSE WHO HAVE TAKEN THE NEXT STEP AND DONATE MONTHLY.