

Operations Manager Annual Report for 2022 – Presented at 2023 AGM

In 2022, GIRR celebrated 30 years as an incorporated society and 20 years since purchasing and relocating to our current address at 220 Sturdies Bay Road. This is a significant amount of time that we have collectively had the good fortune to recycle, work and come together here. We look forward to many more.

Our small and mighty team at the depot was able to receive, process and remove in excess of 70.71 Metric Tonnes (MT) of recyclable materials from Galiano Island in 2022.

Of that, 62.34 MT was Packaging and Printed Paper 'PPP' from island households. (As the name suggests, this includes food and product packaging, i.e., plastic containers, soft and other flexible plastics, polystyrene, tin cans, jar glass, cardboard, and mixed paper.) For this product, Recycle BC paid out a total of \$23,111.11.

In last year's report I stated that the value of the PPP was paid directly to GIRR by Recycle BC. I'd like to correct that. In fact, there is an agreement in place wherein Recycle BC pays the value of our PPP materials to CRD, and in turn, CRD pays us an operating grant so that we have sufficient funds to run our recycling facility. The operations of GIRR (staffing, equipment maintenance, and so on) depend on this grant and we thank the CRD for their continuing support.

In 2022, the operating grant paid to us from the CRD was in the total amount of \$102,813.56.

On behalf of Recycle BC, GFL Environmental paid us \$20,309.50 for trucking costs involved with transporting these materials to Victoria.

In addition to the PPP tonnage, in 2022 we handled 8.02 MT of electronics and small appliances for recycling. Through the electronics recycling program 'EOLE', GIRR was paid \$2,422.22 by Encorp Pacific (Canada); small appliances 'CESA' brought in \$2,522.08 from Product Care. Of the total amount of \$4,944.30 we were paid for these two programs, \$1344 was paid in freight fees to remove the materials off Galiano, leaving a balance income of \$3,600.30.

In 2022, refundable beverage containers added \$30,887.90 to our income. The Bottle Depot in Victoria picked up the refundables from our depot, and then paid GIRR directly in relation to the number of units collected with no transport costs.

There are other recycling services we offer at GIRR, alongside the larger programs named above. While these are not money-makers, they are important services to have available within the community.

In 2022 we received and arranged transport of:

9 tubs of paint tins, for which we were paid \$373.80 by Product Care;

3257' of linear tubes, 77 HID and other lamps, and 3501 units of CFL and bulbs, for which we were paid \$294.48 by Product Care;

.35 MT of batteries for which we are not paid, nor incur any expenses for transporting;

2 boxes of disposable masks (this was a new program in 2022).

GIRR also offers recycling services to Galiano's businesses through its Industrial Commercial Institutional 'ICI' program. In 2022, GIRR removed approximately 11.8 MT of packaging materials on behalf of ICI clients. This service falls outside of the Recycle BC program and our operating grant parameters with the CRD, and so invoicing clients for the materials they bring in is required to fund the program. In 2022, we broke even for the costs of operating the program against the funds brought in.

GIRR's community re-purposing store, the ReDirectory, continues to thrive and play an integral part in Galiano's local circular economy. The goal of the ReDirectory is to keep items in use within our community while keeping items from prematurely going to the landfill. This little store sees a lot of action with materials coming and going. This is another break-even venture, funded through material and monetary donations by the community. We thank all those who contribute to its ongoing success.

Furthering our commitment to the circular economy, 2022 saw the launch of GIRR's Repair Workshop Series. These are afternoon events that have repair person(s) offer free repairs to community members of items ranging from small motors & appliances, textiles and bicycles in 2022. Thanks to funding received through the CRD's Rethink Waste Community grant, we were able to pay our repairers for their service and help to keep items in use. This supports the CRD's grant mandate of keeping things from the landfill, while also serving the needs of our community.

In 2021 GIRR announced plans and secured funding for a depot expansion. However, there were no significant developments in 2022 as our permit application remained in process throughout the year.

In 2022 we continued our efforts to remain connected to the community through our social media pages, website, and through in-person events. We also continue our relationships with the Southern Gulf Island Recycling Coalition and Coast Waste Management Association which helps us to remain connected and in communication with the greater recycling world.

Serving our community while make a positive contribution to the recycling and circular economies continues to be our main inspiration at GIRR. I offer my sincere thanks to all our staff, volunteers, community members and the GIRR board for all you do to make our community and our little slice of paradise even better.