

## Financial Statement W.C.A. 2008

In the 2007 Financial Statement, it was noted that the W.C.A. was looking at ways of raising funds to replace some of the tables and chairs in the Hall. Thanks to the hard work of our former Secretary, Sherry Avery, we were successful in obtaining a Grant from the Columbia Basin Trust in the amount of \$12,500.00. This is to be allocated to new tables, a sound system and sound baffles to improve the acoustics and a banner to make the Windermere sign on Highway 93/95 more eye catching and informative.

The receipt of this Grant has been very fortuitous as we lost one of our long standing sources of revenue mid year: the Bottle Depot. We are currently exploring a way of re-instituting this project and would welcome help from any interested members. With its (temporary) demise, the Fall Fair became our only major fundraiser in 2008. Sponsors were more actively sought with the net effect that more than \$5,000.00 in cash and in-kind contributions were received from 25 different corporations and individuals. Bill Ayrton and his committee deserve our heartfelt thanks for making the Fair so successful.

<b>Balance 2007</b>	<b>\$13,629.01</b>
<b><u>REVENUE</u></b>	
RDEK beach repayment (Oct 07-Sept 08)	10,360.91
Memberships	3,510.00
Member Donations	1,470.00
Fall Fair	19,889.75
Hall Rental	6,529.35
Columbia Basin Trust Grant	12,500.00
2007 GST Rebate	247.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$44,146.10</b>

<b><u>EXPENSES</u></b>	
Beach (Jan-Dec 08)	10,280.67
Citizens on Patrol	313.00
Fall Fair	11,099.57
Hall Electricity	3,012.11
Hall Phone	949.82
Hall Cleaning, Maintenance & Management	4,928.60
Hall Landscaping & Snow removal	1,459.92
Insurance	5,451.00
Office/Administration	295.06
Printing & Advertising (less Fall Fair)	432.79
Signage for Island	419.30
Swim Program Subsidy	300.00
Bottle depot trailer registration & Insurance	159.00
Web Site	524.37
Columbia Basin Trust – Table Purchase	1,469.79
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>41,095.00</b>

<b>Balance 2008</b>	<b>\$16,680.11</b>
Columbia Basin Trust - Table Purchase	1,469.79
<b>Total</b>	<b>41,095.00</b>
<b>Balance (Dec 2008)</b>	<b>16,680.11</b>
Recoverable GST	234.36

# Windermere Community Association

## ANNUAL REPORT 2008

### COMMUNITY VISION

*The people of Windermere envision their community as primarily residential with artisans and artists, as well as a tourist destination for persons of all ages where individuals and families are able to realize their lifestyle needs and desires with opportunity for education, business, recreation and social interaction in a rural village ambiance, affording a clean, safe, attractive environment which includes wildlife, gardens, green space and walkways.*

## THE WINDERMERE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

### Our Mandate

- a. *Provide buildings and facilities for community meetings, entertainment, educational activities and sports.*
- b. *Foster or participate in all such activities that will lead to the cultural, social, physical and agricultural benefit of the community.*
- c. *Provide a forum for community discussion and debate.*
- d. *Raise money by all legal means to support the above objectives.*

Our area of operation is chiefly within the historic townsite of Windermere.

### Our Members

Anyone who supports our mandate may join the WCA. Voting members must be over 18 and permanent residents or property owners within the boundaries of the Windermere Fire Protection District.

### Our Current Activities

In addition to maintaining our community hall as a centre for community events and as a rental facility for other groups and organizations, the WCA manages Windermere Beach on behalf of the Regional District of East Kootenay. The WCA holds a lease on foreshore adjacent to Windermere Beach. A docking facility with slips located at that site is managed by an independent committee associated with the WCA.

The WCA also operates a website which we have recently begun upgrading to make it a clearing house for information about the community. This includes updates about activities and issues of importance to permanent and non-permanent residents alike as well as links to businesses and organizations which provide services within the community.

During the course of each year we hold a number of small events primarily for families in the community. Our major annual public cultural event and fundraiser is the Fall Fair and Scarecrow Festival. Every two years we host a Birdsong Supper during the Wings over the Rockies Festival.

Our other major fundraising activity has been a bottle collection depot. We need new volunteers to reactivate this activity. Assistance is required for daily cleaning and maintenance of the depot site and weekly sorting of bottles for delivery to the central recycling centre in Athalmer.

### New Activities

We welcome our members' suggestions for new activities which they feel they could help us develop so we can better serve the interests and needs of our community

## President's Report

This has been quite an eventful year for Windermere, and I wish to begin by thanking the Board of Directors for their hard work, support, and cooperation. We have operated well through a very difficult time, and through some very difficult decisions.

Our mandate directs us to provide a forum for community debate & discussions. We have facilitated well-attended and vocal community meetings about water, incorporation, and the Foreshore pathway; and the RDEK has held regular information meetings at the Hall. The Hall is available for rent by any group who has a topic of interest it wishes to put forward to the community for discussion and consideration. What the WCA Board cannot do is take sides on any issue brought forward in such a public information meeting. In that sense alone, the Board is "non-political".

We were very lucky this year to receive a grant from the Columbia Basin Trust to cover the cost of new banners made by Sign Artists to go on the signboard at the highway entrance to Windermere, a new sound system and microphones and baffles to improve the sound amenities in the Hall, and new tables and chairs to replace those that are broken.

Some of the events we put on, notably the children's events and the Fall Fair, did well.

Some things, however, things did not go as we had hoped.

We have had to contract out the Bottle Depot for two reasons: the WCA volunteers who manned the depot have sorted and delivered bottles for nine years, and were burned out, but nobody else from the community stepped up to take their place; and also the location at the Windermere store at the highway became untenable. So for the next year at least, it is likely that the Bighorns Football team under their coach, Bruce Marlowe, will take over collecting and sorting donated bottles to raise funds for a new fence for their playing field. They will give us a donation, but we will definitely feel the loss of income that the old Bottle Depot provided for special projects.

Another blow was the resignation in the summer of our President, John Cain because of family and work commitments: I was appointed by the Board to see his year out.

Another disappointment was lack of interest in Windermere Community Association meetings. This concerns me because such a perceived lack of interest makes the community of Windermere very vulnerable - a target for those with hidden personal or political agenda, who might change considerably the community that we all bought into.

**We need all residents to be aware, and become informed about and involved in what is / should be going on in the community. The Windermere Community Association needs you, both to make changes that benefit all who live here, and to retain the benefits that Windermere already has.**

Plans for next year are already in place: we hope to put on something at Valentine's Day, for Easter, a summer bbq, the Fall Fair, and whatever else seems like a good idea for all the community - suggestions are most welcome. (Unfortunately, Wings over the Rockies did not reserve time for our Birdsong Supper, so it will not be a go for this year.) But we do need bodies to make all these things happen. Please volunteer to coordinate or help out with an event - just a few hours once or twice a year is not too much to ask.

**Please, Please, Please become a member and come to the AGM - SATURDAY, MARCH 14, 10 am.**

Anne Picton

President WCA

## Vice-President's Report

2008 was a great year to volunteer with the Windermere Community Association. We have had many changes and I am excited to be a part of diverse and hard working board. A special thanks to Anne Picton for fulfilling the Presidents position.

As we do respect the serious issues brought forward in our community, we also appreciate some enjoyment -so for the past year we have sponsored: a Pirate and Princess Dance party, Easter Egg Hunt, Halloween Costume Party, Christmas Childrens' Party and of course the very successful Fall Fair and Scarecrow Festival. There has been a lot of positive feedback from all of these events.

Please feel free to volunteer as little or as much time at any of these events or be creative and suggest some new ideas.

Cheri Hann

Vice-President