

**Bowen Island
Community Literacy Plan**

January 13, 2009

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The Planning Committee of the Literacy Now Bowen Island acknowledges the support of Literacy Now through the 2010 Legacies Now program of the BC Government.

Executive Summary

Bowen Island is one of the fastest growing communities in all of British Columbia. With approximately 3,500 people, it is the only island-municipality in the province and is renowned for its natural environment and rural atmosphere. It is a culturally-rich community, where the arts thrive and innovation in business and other sectors is widely evident. However, while only a 20-minute ferry ride from the mainland and Horseshoe Bay, in many ways the community is cut off with limited access to services available in larger regions.

The island faces economic challenges of trying to become a self-sustaining community. Many of its employed populace commute to the mainland, which is becoming more and more expensive. Affordable housing is also a looming issue. This, plus the lack of opportunities for higher education and lucrative jobs are factors that have had a huge impact on Bowen's population. While statistics indicate that there are more children per capita here than many places in Canada, there is a noticeable decline in numbers in the range from 20 – 35 years of age.

Bowen Islanders are generally well educated, with high literacy rates over the entire population. Bowen Island is home to a wide range of programs and groups promoting community literacy. However, the majority of these programs are offered by under-funded and understaffed organizations heavily relying on volunteer assistance and so longevity of otherwise successful and effective programs is often at risk. Access is another issue, because of limited transportation options on the island. Access due to the cost of programs is also a barrier for some of the middle-to-low income families on island.

The Process

In considering a process for the development of a literacy plan on Bowen Island, the following process was followed.

- The public at large, and specific representatives from a wide-spectrum of sectors met to informally discuss the idea of a literacy plan for Bowen.
- A small group was struck with the task of expanding the conversation by connecting with all segments of the community.
- A community launch was held in October, 2007.
- A Planning Committee was struck and began developing vision for community literacy.
- The committee began the work of developing a Community Literacy Assets Inventory.
- Organization of a symposium ensued and was held in June, 2007.
- A profile of the Bowen Island community was created.
- The Planning Committee continued meeting to assess the public input from the symposium.
- Throughout the entire process the community was kept informed through a series of articles in the local newspaper.
- The committee prepared a final report for review of stakeholders, submission to 2010 Legacies Now and the Bowen Community.

The Plan

When the people of Bowen came together they wanted to answer the question: *What might we do collaboratively to enhance life and learning on Bowen Island?*

Access, adequate funding and providing necessary services to our populace are at the core of our Literacy Plan. The sharing of knowledge and awareness concerning the widespread resources available was seen as pivotal to achieving our goals. More sharing of information, forging stronger linkages and opportunities for collaboration were identified as being key components of our strategy, along with the ability to strengthen existing programs and support staff and volunteers in their work.

In terms of concrete action to ensure this is achieved, the plan focuses on the following:

1. exploring the nature of a possible new role in the community, that of a coordinator of community groups and activities, including the maintenance of a database of resources.
2. convening intentional intergenerational events and gatherings where the atmosphere is fun, respectful and compassionate, and there is the opportunity to learn from each other
3. continuing the dialogue around “What is education? What is literate?” to explore the broad definition including emotional and spiritual literacy, nontraditional forms and topics of conversation,
4. removing barriers and increasing access while maintaining an environmental consciousness (fewer cars, clearer trail markings, more use of public transit, etc.).

Our plan defines objectives, strategies and a work plan to achieve our goals.

The Process

The Bowen Island Literacy Now Planning Committee

Jacqueline Massey, Chair (from June, 2008)	Executive Director, Bowen Island Arts Council
Dr. Ken Beatty, Chair (until June, 2008)	Community School Association President
Murray Atherton	Director, Bowen Island Community Foundation
Ben Tamblyn	Bowen Youth Centre Coordinator
Teal Ander	Community School Coordinator, Youth Centre Advocate, Knick-Knack-Nook (Re-use it Store)
David Langmuir	Principal, Bowen Island Community School
Sue Bell	Disability Coalition
Andrea Little	Bowen Island Community Library Board, Voices in the Sound Festival
Helen Wallwork	United Church, Theatre on the Isle, Bowen Island Community School
Jane Kellet	West Vancouver School Board Chair
Carol Cram	Capilano College Instructor
Brad Ovenell-Carter	Vice-principal, Island Pacific School

Summary

The process of compiling a Literacy Now plan for Bowen Island has been lengthy and thorough. Many community groups and organization have participated and the result is the first inventory of Bowen's literacy assets as well as a "wish list" from many groups and individuals. The Bowen Island Literacy Now Planning Committee has attempted to be inclusive and mindful of many different opinions and needs of a broad range of members of our community. Together we have defined our vision for community literacy and developed an action plan that will strengthen our community's literacy assets as well as reinforce connectivity, links and collaboration.

Murray Atherton, Chair of the Spirit of Bowen committee, initiated the Bowen Island connection to the Literacy Now program in 2005 when he filed an Expression of Interest on behalf of the community. In the late fall of 2006, a program launch was planned. Stakeholders were invited to a presentation conducted by program representatives of Literacy Now. Key representatives of various groups, from educational institutions, social service agencies, arts and culture and business held initial discussions. A new committee convened some time later and a very successful community launch was held in October 2007 at the Gallery @ Artisan Square. Following the launch a Task Group was formed. A successful application for Planning Funds resulted in the Bowen Island Arts Council named as Stewards. Dr. Ken Beatty lead the committee from October 2007 until June 2008, when Jacqueline Massey took over as Chair of the Bowen Island Literacy Now Planning Committee.

On June 7, 2008 the Bowen Island Literacy Now Planning Committee invited the entire public, and specifically a wide range of representatives of island groups and organizations to a Literacy Now Workshop facilitated by Carol McKinnon, an award-winning human resources consultant. She has been a consultant, a leader, innovator and teacher in the Human Resources field for 30 years. Carol lead an "open-space" meeting focusing on collaborative approaches to exploring literacy needs and defining solutions.

Representatives attended the one-day workshop from schools, libraries, the municipality, early-learning programs, social service providers, artists, seniors organizations, industry and business and environmental agencies. It generated a wealth of information and ideas and also helped to identify gaps in Bowen's existing literacy programs. The final report of the Literacy Now Workshop was used as a foundation for the Literacy Now Community Plan and Literacy Assets Inventory.

What is Literacy?

According to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) "literacy is the ability to identify, understand, interpret, create, communicate, compute and use printed and written materials associated with varying contexts. Literacy involves a continuum of learning to enable an individual to achieve his or her goals, to develop his or her knowledge and potential, and to participate fully in the wider society."

Following this mandate, our vision of community literacy includes:

- 1) the promotion of life-long learning and literacy skills;
- 2) the fostering of social emotional well-being of all community members; and
- 3) the embracing and support of what makes our community special.

By assessing literacy assets and needs we strove to get a picture of our community as a whole. We work towards a community that is inclusive and responsive to the diverse needs of a wide range of members.

Guiding Principles

Bowen Island is a small community. And while we share a number of values and principles, we are also quite diverse. This diversity may lead to differences in opinion and perceptions on our needs and potential solutions to our problems. However, because we are so small, we have an opportunity to honestly and openly work towards achieving consensus precisely because we can be inclusive. As long as we are willing to listen and respect our neighbours and fellow residents and ensure communications flows freely, we believe we can achieve many things that will benefit all.

As we moved forward with our process, we were open and willing to gain:

- a greater appreciation of the breadth and depth of gifts, passions and expertise available on the island
- an understanding of the diverse opinions and perspectives of Bowen Islanders committed to Life-Long Learning
- an exploration of various options and alternatives for how to build sustainable community

We also agreed that: without **PASSION**, no one is interested and without **RESPONSIBILITY** nothing will get done.

Community Profile

Bowen Island, located in Howe Sound, is a vibrant community of approximately 3,500 permanent residents located six kilometres west of the mainland and accessed by a 20-minute regular ferry service from West Vancouver. A popular vacation home for British Columbians, the population on Bowen grows by roughly 1,500 visitors each summer.

Bowen was established as the first Island Municipality in British Columbia in December 1999. It is an island within the Islands Trust jurisdiction. Its Letters Patent states that the Municipality “shall support the object of the Islands Trust.” A member of Metro Vancouver, the Municipality is one of the fastest growing areas, with a population increase of 13.7% between the 2001 and 2006 Census.

Many flock to Bowen’s shores because of its natural beauty and rural atmosphere. It stretches 12 kilometres long and 6 kilometres wide and features a significant portion of undeveloped Crown Land, woodland, greenways, and public beaches. But it’s the community – a small, caring, conscientious populace - that makes living here the first choice of many residents. It’s a well known fact: Bowen’s a great place to raise a family. It’s safe and friendly and offers many amenities for all ages.

Residents, from the youngest to aging seniors, are able to take advantage of the many local educational options, which include excellent public and private schools and alternative learning programs. Arts and culture thrive here with a high percentage of residents making a living from creative endeavours. In 2006, Bowen Island was named the 4th most artistic community in Canada with a population under 50,000. Many nonprofits provide activities, social services and support for the community, while numerous churches, and retreats are available for those seeking spiritual experiences. Health and fitness services also abound. Bowen has been called a commuter island, as about 500 workers and over 200 students commute to offices and schools on the mainland each day. As well, many workers are catching the ferry from the mainland for a reverse commute as they offer their services to local businesses. There are two main commercial cores on Bowen Island. The village of Snug Cove is home to several cafés, restaurants, food stores, specialty shops, a pharmacy, medical offices, pubs, the community library and post office. The second, at Artisan Square is a mixture of work/live-in artist studios, galleries, eateries, health and fitness centres, and small businesses. The economy is mixed, with many small enterprises and home-based companies established on the island. Many businesses rely on both local and tourist support to ensure they are economically viable.

Bowen boasts many amenities including a stunningly beautiful natural environment and many recreational opportunities. In addition to government wharfs, it has two marinas, extensive hiking trails, numerous beaches, parkland and picnic areas, a bike park, and a challenging nine-hole public golf course. Each year Bowen hosts the highly popular *Round Bowen Sailboat Race*, the *Round Bowen Kayak Challenge*, *Run for the Ferry* marathon and its annual summer community fair, *Bowfest*. Bowen is a green community, boasting a very efficient recycling centre, affectionately named BIRD (Bowen Island Recycling Depot), and will soon be opening a re-use it store – the Knick Knack Nook. The desire to adopt sustainable principles and implement environmentally-friendly initiatives and practises is widely shared.

Unfortunately, the municipality does not have a community centre, and lacks a number of civic facilities. However, it has recently acquired civic properties and is working to develop these properties as assets for the community. Currently underway, but dependent upon available funding, are plans for a community hall and arts centre. The Bowen Island Municipality is working with many members of the community to attempt to bring the dream of having a space and place for the all residents to gather to a reality.

Affordability is a real issue on Bowen Island, which has always been a home for residents of a range of

income levels. The soaring price of real estate has had an impact on Bowen, just as it has elsewhere. Since incorporation, property assessments have risen + 100% and house prices have climbed to a level such that home ownership is out of range for many people. Currently there are 1,340 occupied private dwellings with 90% of residents living in single-attached homes. The median price of a house on Bowen in 2007 was just under \$749,000.

In the past five years, more and more people have been forced to leave because of the lack of affordable housing. The community has been addressing these issues through the Bowen Community Housing Association and the municipality's Affordable Housing Working Group.

As a ferry dependent community, islanders are concerned about increasing ferry fares, which, since April 1, 2003, have risen by 50%. Ticket costs rose 4.4% in 2007, and are expected to be bumped up by a minimum of 3.8% in 2008, and 6.3% from April 2009 to 2011, not including fuel surcharges.

Demographics

The land

At a latitude of 49°23'00" and a longitude of 123°22'00", Bowen Island lies in Howe Sound near Vancouver, British Columbia. The island is 5,260 hectares in size with 37 kilometres of coastline. Mount Gardner is the highest peak at 719 meters. The island stretches 12 kilometres long and 6 kilometres wide and features a significant portion of undeveloped Crown Land, woodland, greenways, and public beaches. Bowen Island is a place renowned for its natural beauty and rural atmosphere.

History

The [indigenous people](#) of this land are known as S'wxwú7mesh. Their territory covers Howe Sound, including Bowen Island. They are part of the [Coast Salish](#) cultural and linguistic group. Their language is separate and distinct from their [Halkomelem](#)-speaking relatives to the south, but more closely connected to their [Shishalh](#) kinship from [Sechelt](#).

Areas such as Snug Cove and a few other parts of the island were used as camp sites for hunting and gathering trips. Historically they would use the warmer spring and summer months to travel to resource gathering sites and move from their permanent winter villages. Bowen is still used by people from S'wxwú7mesh and [Musqueam](#) for deer hunting.

In 1791 the Spanish explorer Narvaez had named this island and one to west "Islas de Apodaca" after Sebastian Ruiz de Apodaca, a Spanish naval official. It was renamed in 1860 after Rear Admiral James Bowen in recognition of his wartime efforts in defeating a French fleet in 1794, while serving Admiral Howe. Rear Admiral Bowen never actually visited the island.

Bowen remained a wilderness until 1871 when homesteaders built houses and started a brickworks, which supplied bricks to the expanding city of Vancouver. Over the years, local industry has included an explosives factory, logging, mining, and milling, although there is no heavy industry on the island at present.

William Davies, born the son of an Ontario grain merchant worked as a tailor as a lad, then in 1887 pre-empted 33 acres at Snug Cove where he planted an orchard, shipped fruit to Vancouver and hunted deer and grouse for the city market as well. And in the early 1900s, before the cottages were built, he supplied tents for campers at Davies Orchard.

In 1900 Captain John A. Cates initiated his 20-year-development with the purchase of land in Deep Bay and Snug Cove. To pioneer the island's reputation as a destination resort with day excursions, he regularly delivered visitors on his 300 passenger ship, Britannia. Guests stayed at either his Terminal Resort Hotel, in one of the two hundred cottages or perhaps just camped in one of the platform tents. Vacationers and picnickers arrived en masse to the island during the summer months, earning Bowen the moniker 'the people's playground', and the area eventually became the premiere resort destination in the province.

Two decades later, the Union Steam Ship Company purchased the resort in the 1920s and continued a vigorous expansion program. In the heady days 5,000 visitors arrived on "The Happy Isle" every summer weekend. They set sail on the Lady Alex's moonlight cruises to rub shoulders at the Dance Pavilion, jive to the big band tunes of Wilf Wiley or just spend the weekend enjoying a get-away at the newly constructed Bowen Inn.

In the first half of the 20th century, life on Bowen was dominated by the Union Steamship Company that operated a very busy resort at Snug Cove. The resort closed in the 1960s and the island returned to a quiet period of slow growth. In the 1980s, real estate pressures in Vancouver accelerated growth on Bowen and currently the local economy is largely dependent on commuters who work on the mainland in Greater Vancouver.

Governance

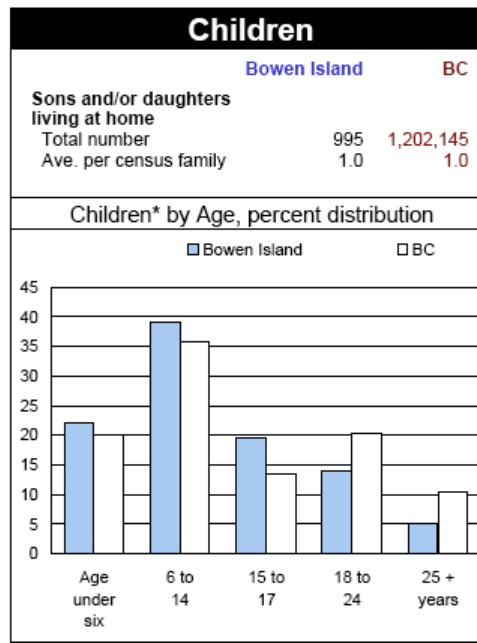
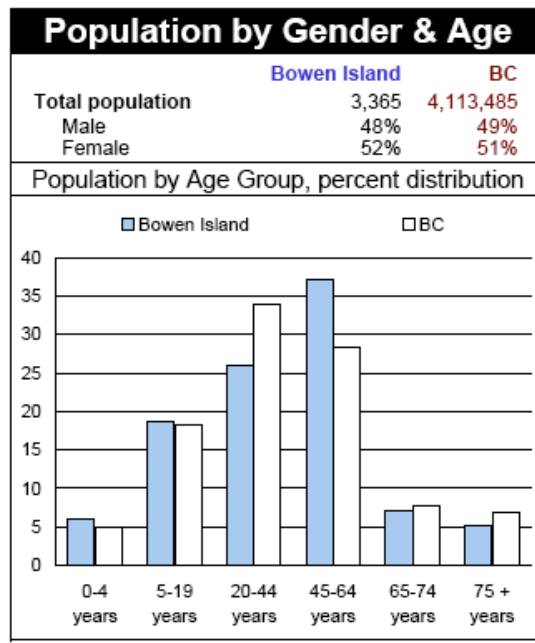
Bowen was established as the only Island Municipality in British Columbia in December 1999. It is an island within the Islands Trust jurisdiction. Its Letters Patent states that the Municipality "shall support the object of the Islands Trust." A member of Metro Vancouver, the Municipality is one of the fastest growing areas, with a population increase of 13.7% between the 2001 and 2006 Census. Bowen Island has an RCMP detachment, a BC ambulance station and a volunteer fire department.

The people

Bowen Island hosts a vibrant, growing community of approximately 3,500 permanent residents. A popular vacation home for British Columbians, the population swells by roughly 1,500 visitors each summer. It's the community – a small, caring, conscientious populace - that makes living here the first choice of many residents. It's a well known fact: Bowen is a great place to raise a family. It's safe and friendly and offers many amenities for all ages.

Summary		
	Bowen Island	BC
Total population (as of May 16, 2006)	3,362	4,113,487
Share of Regional District	0.2%	-
2001 Census Population (as of May 15, 2001)	2,957	3,907,738
Percent change '01-2006	13.7%	5.3%
Land area 2006		
km ²	49.94	
km ²		924,815
Occupied private dwellings (unrounded)	1,339	1,642,715
Total dwellings (unrounded)	1,640	1,788,474

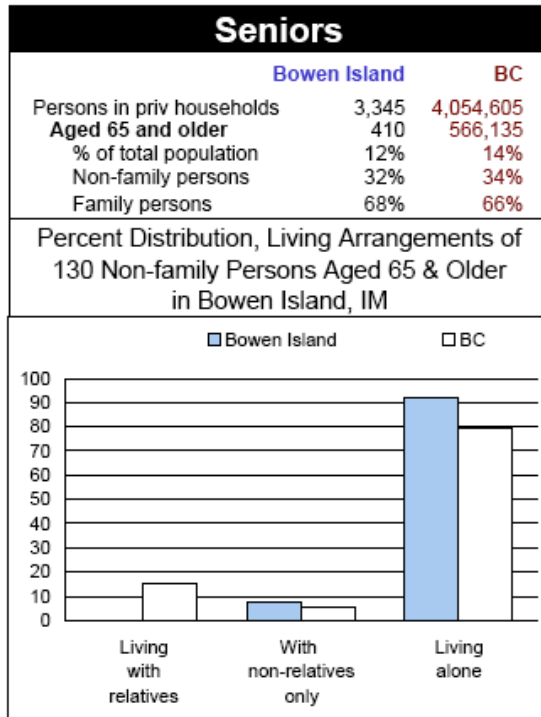
The 2006 census numbers show that Bowen Island has a high percentage of children and youth. Compared to the BC average, Bowen has a higher number of residents for the age group of 0-19 year-olds. School-age children are able to take advantage of the many local educational options, which include excellent public and private schools and alternative learning programs.



In the 20-44 year-old category, there is a noticeable decline reflecting that Bowen does not have any post-secondary education institutions and a limited number of entry-level professional opportunities.

According to the 2006 census, Bowen Island has a higher than average number of seniors living alone. This number is surprising given the fact that the island does not have a hospital and a pool for exercises. Many of Bowen's shops and sidewalks are tough to negotiate for mobility-impaired residents. Yet seniors

enjoy a high quality of life and feel secure living alone much longer than the BC average largely because of community ties and support. Neighbours and friends tend to look out for one another and Bowen's seniors form an active and vocal group in the community.



Across the board, Bowen islanders are predominantly white and Anglo-Saxon, they tend to be better educated and earn more than the BC average.

8		Personal Taxation Statistics				
Total Income of All Returns						
Year	All Returns (number)		Average Income (\$)		% Change avg. income	
	Bowen Island	BC	Bowen Island	BC	Bowen Island	BC
2001	2,040	2,911,540	38,908	30,982	n/a	n/a
2002	2,170	2,980,110	40,380	31,316	3.8	1.1
2003	2,240	2,981,790	42,265	32,187	4.7	2.8
2004	2,280	3,053,420	42,131	33,766	-0.3	4.9
2005	2,370	3,154,090	46,043	35,834	9.3	6.1

Note: This section is now based on All Returns, not Taxable Returns

In 2006, Bowen Island was named the 4th most artistic community in Canada with a population under 50,000. Arts and culture thrive here with a high percentage of residents making a living from creative endeavours. The high percentage of artists in the community finds reflection in the literary assets inventory as there is a wealth of arts-related programming and resources available.

Amenities

In addition to government wharfs, Bowen has two marinas, extensive hiking trails, numerous beaches, parkland and picnic areas, a bike park, and a challenging nine-hole public golf course. Each year Bowen hosts the highly popular Round Bowen Sailboat Race, the Round Bowen Kayak Challenge, Run for the Ferry marathon and its annual summer community fair, Bowfest. There is also a 2,746 metre (3,003 yard) 130 Slope rated 9-hole golf course. Unfortunately, Bowen Island, does not have a community centre, and lacks a number of civic facilities.

Commerce and Tourism

There are two main commercial cores on Bowen Island. The village of Snug Cove is home to several cafés, restaurants, food stores, specialty shops, a pharmacy, medical offices, pubs, the community library and post office. The second, at Artisan Square is a mixture of work/live-in artist studios, galleries, eateries, health and fitness centres, and small businesses. In June 2007, First Credit Union, a full-service bank, opened its doors in Snug Cove. There is also a North Shore Credit Union automated banking machine. The economy is mixed, with many small enterprises and home-based companies established on the island. Many businesses rely on both local and tourist support to ensure they are economically viable.

Tourism plays an important role in Bowen’s economy and many businesses see an increase in revenue during the summer months. Local shops and restaurants have to hire extra staff to accommodate higher numbers of customers. By the end of the tourist season, those temporary positions dry up. Some businesses find it increasingly difficult to fill their positions during the busy season. One factor is the lack of affordable housing.

Housing

The soaring price of real estate has had an impact on Bowen, just as it has elsewhere. Since incorporation, property assessments have risen + 100% and house prices have climbed to a level such that home ownership is out of range for many people. Currently there are 1,340 occupied private dwellings with 90% of residents living in single-attached homes. The median price of a house on Bowen in 2007 was just under \$749,000. Limited affordable housing stock has resulted in some people having to leave the island. However, the Municipality has developed an affordable housing policy to help address this issue and is currently setting up an arms-length housing authority.

Dwellings

			BC				BC
Number of occupied private dwellings	1,340	100.0%	100.0%	Number of occupied private dwellings	1,340	100.0%	100.0%
Owned	1,085	81.0%	69.7%	Req'ng regular maintenance only	795	59.3%	67.7%
Rented	255	19.0%	30.1%	Requiring minor repairs	405	30.2%	24.9%
Band housing	-	0.0%	0.2%	Requiring major repairs	140	10.4%	7.4%
Single-detached house	1,210	90.3%	49.0%	Period of construction, before 1946	85	6.3%	7.9%
Semi-detached house	5	0.4%	3.1%	Period of construction, 1946 to 1960	90	6.7%	10.6%
Row house	20	1.5%	6.8%	Period of construction, 1961 to 1970	145	10.8%	12.8%
Apartment, duplex	40	3.0%	10.2%	Period of construction, 1971 to 1980	315	23.5%	21.5%
Apartment, building with 5 or more storeys	-	0.0%	7.2%	Period of construction, 1981 to 1985	120	9.0%	9.2%
Apartment, building with under 5 storeys	55	4.1%	20.9%	Period of construction, 1986 to 1990	125	9.3%	9.1%
Other single-attached house	5	0.4%	0.2%	Period of construction, 1991 to 1995	140	10.4%	11.8%
Movable dwelling	10	0.7%	2.6%	Period of construction, 1996 to 2000	170	12.7%	8.9%
Average number of rooms per dwelling	6.8		6.4	Period of construction, 2001 to 2006	160	11.9%	8.3%
Average number of bedrooms per dwelling	2.7		2.7				

Commuting

Bowen has been called a commuter island, as about 500 workers and over 200 students commute to offices and schools on the mainland each day. As well, many workers are catching the ferry from the mainland for a reverse commute as they offer their services to local businesses. As a ferry dependent community, islanders are concerned about increasing ferry fares, which, since April 1, 2003, have risen by 50%. Ticket costs rose 4.4% in 2007, and are expected to be bumped up by a minimum of 3.8% in 2008, and 6.3% from April 2009 to 2011, not including fuel surcharges. Since the fall of 2008, two independently operated foot passenger ferries have commenced service transporting island residents and visitors to downtown Vancouver and Granville Island.

Going green

Bowen is a green community, boasting a very efficient recycling centre, affectionately named BIRD (Bowen Island Recycling Depot). A re-use it store, the Knick Knack Nook, will be opening soon. The desire to adopt sustainable principles and implement environmentally-friendly initiatives and practices is widely shared. A big step toward building a more sustainable community was taken when Tranlink, a community shuttle service started operating on Bowen Island. The buses cover two major routes across the island and meet the ferries.

All tables published by BC Stats Community Facts and 2006 Census Profile.

Literacy Inventory

Bowen Island is home to a wide range of programs and groups promoting community literacy for all age groups. A multitude of programs caters to school-age children reflecting the high children to adult ratio in our community. Another strong focus is on arts and culture, recreation, health, the environment and heritage. Many non-profit groups and organizations provide activities, services and support for the community, while numerous churches, and retreats are available for those seeking spiritual experiences. However, many of these groups and programs are run entirely by, or depend heavily upon volunteer involvement. (Please see the full Literacy Assets Inventory in the Appendix.)

Gaps Identified

The following gaps and stumbling blocks to community literacy have been identified:

Accessibility

Transportation: Some families and individuals don't have easy access to literacy programs because of transportation issues. Our community shuttle does not provide transportation at all times and all areas of the island and there is no taxi service in place.

Seniors especially have mobility issues on Bowen Island. But so do youth as travelling to and from extra-curricular activities in particularly challenging when there is no regular bus service. Hitchhiking is common on the island, as that is the only mode often available.

Cost: Many attractive programs require payment of a fee or tuition and are not always affordable for low-income families or individuals. Recognizing poverty and providing support is an important step toward including everyone in community literacy.

Fragmentation

Many resources are available to the different groups but at present there are few concerted efforts to share them. It is imperative that the different schools, organizations and groups make more of an attempt to work together and support one another. Raising awareness of available resources and how to access them is an important step toward that goal. Common goals and interests can be identified and used to create a network of collaboration and sharing.

Communication

Bowen does not have a community centre. Therefore it also lacks a central location where information is available to all. Some organizations provide specific services, for instance the arts council maintains a calendar of arts and cultural events, but there is no clearinghouse of information, no place, virtual or other to obtain information according to individual's needs.

Support of staff and volunteers

Many of our programs are run by staff and volunteers who are overwhelmed, frustrated or simply burned out. They also have expressed the sentiment of feeling "cut off". There are a number of ways of supporting staff and volunteers and give them the sense of being appreciated. Supporting staff and volunteers can for instance take the forms of fundraising help, networking events and sharing resources.

Continuity:

Most of our programs have to regularly apply for funding to keep going. For key literacy programs, a short-term “emergency” fund could support the programs we have and make it easier for the people running them.

At-risk community members:

One of our goals is to make literacy programs available and accessible for everyone. There are a number of people who are unable to fully participate in all aspects of community life. Some residents are not accessing resources they are entitled to because they cannot fill out the forms. Bowen Island does not have a social worker social worker/counselor for at-risk community members. Specific groups such as AA (Alcoholics Anonymous), Narcotics Anonymous and ABOA (Anorexic, Bulimic, Overeaters Anonymous) exist, but in a small community it can be scary to take the step and attend meetings. At-risk community members will often not step forward to seek help. Low income residents are often less able to participate in programs because of costs for fees, transportation, childcare. People with mental health issues are often isolated and experience high levels of stress in their lives. A learning environment with the aim of recognizing personal potential and assets and integration is needed. In a supportive environment, people with mental health issues can access computers, receive assistance with forms, or simply learn in a community environment, thus gaining some structure to their lives and providing a feeling of inclusion and acceptance. It also provides an opportunity for them to contribute their strengths to the community through a peer-based approach to learning.

Action: Outreach strategies to reach at-risk community members need to be developed and put into action.

Adult computer literacy and life skills

Computer classes are available through Continuing Education or the Community Recreation Department of the municipality, but most of them require a rudimentary knowledge for participants. Our stakeholders have defined a need for facilitated access to computers for those seeking a grounding introduction to computers and internet use and who wish to develop basic skills for such purposes as communications (via email, etc.).

Action: Informal, possibly one-on-one instructions in computer, online and life skills (including writing cover letters, resumes, applications for financial support) at the library would be an asset for island residents who don't have access to a computer at home or require rudimentary skills. The feasibility of a volunteer tutoring or mentoring program should be evaluated.

Literacy Plan

Goals

We aim to work collaboratively to enhance life and learning on Bowen Island. Programs and projects will be guided by the principles of collaboration, access for all, respect, and open communication. We will sustain and enrich existing programs and develop new community literacy programs which can be self-sustaining and independent, to ensure that the legacy of literacy continues beyond the current grant program.

Access, adequate funding and providing necessary services to our populace are at the core of our Literacy Plan. The circulation of knowledge and awareness concerning the widespread resources available was seen as pivotal to achieving our goals. More sharing of information, forging stronger linkages and opportunities for collaboration were identified as being key components of our strategy, along with the ability to strengthen existing programs and support staff and volunteers in their work.

Our Literacy Plan should achieve the following objectives:

1. Create awareness of the existing resources and facilities on the island.
2. Ensure access to programs through improved transportation, subsidies for low-income residents, and adequate communication about availability of and access to programs.
3. Ensure sustainability for existing programs through adequate and long-term funding.
4. Support inter-generational learning and community building.
5. Strengthen linkages between organizations so opportunities for collaboration can arise.

Action Plan

Objective #1: Create awareness of the existing resources and facilities on the island and ensure full access to those resources.

Strategies:

- Create a Community Literacy Coordinator position to provide leadership, communication and expertise in implementing the Community Literacy Plan.
- Work with Capilano College, local school districts (including New Westminster) to foster community-based implementation of literacy programming.
- Share information about literacy needs and ideas for community based action on a regular basis.
- Engage private schools in working with the community on literacy issues.
- Work with Regional Literacy Coordinator to connect Bowen Island literacy activities with literacy approaches adopted provincially and nationally
- Create a Literacy Resource Clearinghouse. A literacy resource clearinghouse (Clearinghouse) was identified by multiple residents as a potentially valuable resource for community literacy. As a centralized database, the Clearinghouse would help support existing programs by increasing their exposure and link them to currently available communication channels such as the Bowen Island Undercurrent, Bowen TV, Artisan Radio, the Bowen Island Forum, the Bowen Arts Council list & schedule, Bowen Wikipedia, Bowen Community Connection and One Day Bowen.

Success Measures:

Extent to which public awareness has expanded and is evident in the community.

Objective #2 Ensure access to programs through improved transportation, subsidies for low-income residents, and adequate communication about availability of and access to programs.

Strategies:

- Develop a ride-share program. Create a bulletin for ride-sharing via Clearinghouse.
- Work with Bowen Transit to discuss opportunities for subsidies in fares for low-income families and residents.

Success Measures:

Extent to which seniors and others are able to access and participate in programs and activities.

Objective #3: Ensure sustainability for existing programs through adequate and long-term funding.

Strategies:

- Explore, identify and apply to funding sources that have championed literacy.
- Develop approaches that fit with government directions.
- Continue to link and embed literacy in other programs that have more sustainable sources of funding.
- Create projects that have or can get funding to use as leverage for matching dollars.
- Support a collaborative rather than competitive approach to funding and strengthen the network of all agencies.

- Advocate to sustain what is already working within the community.
- Continue to network and maintain communication with federal, provincial and regional literacy organizations.
- Share knowledge about fundraising and grant writing know-how.
- Alert organizations about grants available and upcoming deadlines via Clearinghouse.

Success Measures:

Continued existence of key programs embraced by our community.

<p>Objective 4: Support inter-generational learning and community building.</p>
--

Strategies:

- Focus on eliminating isolation experienced by seniors and others who face challenges in accessing programming and connection with the community.
- Implement a community driven intergenerational story project or Legacy Story Project.
- Initiate opportunities for youth and seniors to work collaboratively, exchanging knowledge and expertise.

Success Measures:

Extent to which seniors and others are included in community activities and programs.

<p>Objective 5: Strengthen linkages between organizations so opportunities for collaboration can arise.</p>
--

Strategies:

- Enhance communication between groups and organizations on Bowen, possibly utilizing a new community-oriented website.
- Encourage partnerships with the Bowen Island Community Foundation, organizations and businesses to create a sponsorship fund to literacy programs.
- Facilitate partnering of groups and organization for event planning, publicity and fundraising
- Encourage groups to communicate about current initiatives and events via Clearinghouse.
- Facilitate brainstorming sessions with community literacy groups with common goals and interests.

Success Measures:

Extent to which community organizations and education institutions work together in a collaborative way.

Workplan

Objective/Strategy	Timeframe	Resources Needed
Objective #1: Create awareness of the existing resources and facilities on the island and ensure full access to those resources.		
• Create a Community Literacy Coordinator position to implement the Community Literacy Plan.	Immediate	Funding from Literacy Now
• Work with Capilano College, local school districts (including New Westminster) to foster community-based implementation of literacy programming.	Ongoing	Existing resources
• Share information about literacy needs and ideas for community-based action on a regular basis.	Ongoing	Role of Coordinator
• Engage private schools in working with the community on literacy issues.	Over life of plan	Role of Coordinator
• Work with Regional Literacy Coordinator to connect Bowen Island literacy activities with literacy approaches adopted provincially and nationally.	Ongoing	Existing resources
• Create a Literacy Resource Clearinghouse.	Immediate	Role of Coordinator
Objective #2 Ensure access to programs through improved transportation, subsidies for low-income residents, and adequate communication about availability of and access to programs.		
• Develop a ride-share program. Create a bulletin for ride-sharing via Clearinghouse.	Immediate	New resources needed
• Work with Bowen Transit to discuss opportunities for subsidies in fares for low-income families and residents.	Immediate	Existing resources
Objective #3: Ensure sustainability for existing programs through adequate and long-term funding.		
• Explore, identify and apply to funding sources that have championed literacy.	Over life of plan	Role of Coordinator
• Develop approaches that fit with government directions.	Over life of plan	Role of Coordinator
• Continue to link and embed literacy in other programs that have more sustainable sources of funding.	Over life of plan	Role of Coordinator
• Create projects that have or can get funding to use as leverage for matching dollars.	Over life of plan	Role of Coordinator

Objective/Strategy	Timeframe	Resources Needed
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support a collaborative rather than competitive approach to funding and strengthen the network of all agencies. 	Over life of plan	Role of Coordinator
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advocate to sustain what is already working within the community. 	Over life of plan	Role of Coordinator
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to network and maintain communication with federal, provincial and regional literacy organizations. 	Over life of plan	Role of Coordinator
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Share knowledge about fundraising and grant writing know-how. 	Over life of plan	Role of Coordinator
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alert organizations about grants available and upcoming deadlines via Clearinghouse. 	Over life of plan	Role of Coordinator
Objective 4: Support inter-generational learning and community building.		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Focus on eliminating isolation experienced by seniors and others who face challenges in accessing programming and connection with the community. 	Over life of plan	Role of Coordinator
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement a community driven intergenerational story project or Legacy Story Project. 	1-2 years	New resources needed
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Initiate opportunities for youth and seniors to work collaboratively, exchanging knowledge and expertise. 	1-2 years	New resources needed
Objective 5: Strengthen linkages between organizations so opportunities for collaboration can arise.		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhance communication between groups and organizations on Bowen, possibly utilizing a new community-oriented website. 	Immediate	New resources needed
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage partnerships with the Bowen Island Community Foundation, organizations and businesses to create a sponsorship fund to literacy programs. 	Immediate	Existing resources
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitate partnering of groups and organization for event planning, publicity and fundraising 	Over life of plan	Role of Coordinator
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage groups to communicate about current initiatives and events via Clearinghouse. 	Immediate	Existing resources
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitate brainstorming sessions with community literacy groups with common goals and interests. 	Ongoing	Existing resources



**Literacy Now Workshop. June 7, 2008
Final Report**

**A report of the Community Gathering in Open Space
Cates Hill Chapel, Bowen Island
June 2008**



Compiled by Carol MacKinnon, and submitted June 10, 2008

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Executive Summary

More than 30 Bowen Islanders with a common passion for literacy gathered June 7, 2008 in Open Space to explore the question:

What might we do **collaboratively** to enhance life and learning on Bowen Island?

Through a series of conversations, the following themes were explored to the point of generating possible action steps:

5. exploring the nature of a possible new role in the community, that of a coordinator of community groups and activities, including the maintenance of a database
6. convening intentional intergenerational events and gatherings where the atmosphere is fun, respectful and compassionate, and there is the opportunity to learn from each other
7. continuing the dialogue around “What is education? What is literate?”, to explore the broad definition including emotional and spiritual literacy, nontraditional forms and topics of conversation,
8. removing barriers and increasing access while maintaining an environmental consciousness (fewer cars, clearer trail markings, more use of public transit, etc.)
9. engaging in a disciplined process of Community Asset mapping

These suggestions will now be reviewed by the Literacy Now Bowen Island Planning Committee. The committee will work in concert with Lori Walker, the community coordinator, ensuring that Bowen Island can learn from the best practices and experiences of other communities across province. Next steps and proposed activities will be communicated both to the participants of the workshop on an ongoing basis, but also to the community large, and the Provincial organization. “Legacies 2010” at



Workshop Summary:

The morning started with an introduction from Jacqueline Massey, the Chair of the Bowen Island Literacy Now Planning Committee, including welcoming Lori Walker, a project manager for Literacy with the 2010 Legacies Now organization. Carol MacKinnon, as the facilitator, presented some suggestions for how the day might go (the agenda is attached as **Appendix 4**) and some guidelines for Dialogue (her speaking notes are attached as **Appendix 5**). Then she introduced the methodology for the day's meeting, Open Space Technology (the powerpoint includes some of these notes, attached as **Appendix 6**). Before Open Space actually started, however, we learned who all was in the room.

Introductions: We used a structured interview process (the interview guide form and the transcribed notes of each interview are attached as **Appendices 2 and 3**) and had people interview each other, five minutes each, and then introduce each other, for 30 seconds, around the circle. The rough notes from their interviews are provided in the Appendix.

Open Space: Once we knew who was in the room, and what their three wishes were to heighten and enhance the vitality of Bowen Island as a learning community, we opened the space to whatever ideas participants wanted to explore in more depth. To focus these conversations, we posed the question:

What might we do **collaboratively** to enhance life and learning on Bowen Island?

This question immediately generated a number of eager conveners of conversations, as follows:

- Environmental Sustainability (Sue Ellen Fast)
- Youth Engagement (Jane Pivik)
- Inventory of Island Expertise (Bonney MacDowell)
- Promoting culture as an “eco-friendly good”, and Celebrating our unique place within the Islands Trust (Karen Cowper and Peter Frinton)
- Music as an enhancement to life, learning and community (Pauline LeBel)
- Promote social/emotional learning and create a culture of compassionate communication (Andrea Kaufman and Susanne Martin)
- Development of cross-generational activities (Diane Marshall)
- Drive our cars less (Julie Andres)
- Integrate online learning in groups (Andrea Kaufman)

The summaries of these conversations are provided in **Appendix 7**. The community gathered to consider these summaries, and discern the common themes contained in them. These common themes became the topic areas for a final round of conversations, during which participants were encouraged to get more specific about potential next steps and actions that they could recommend to the Planning Committee (and in some cases, actions individual participants could take, without needing approval or funding from the Planning Committee). These summaries are found in **Appendix 8**.

Next Steps: The gathering concluded with each participant declaring a word of encouragement for the Planning Committee as they moved forward, and some closing remarks from Committee chair, Jacqueline Massey. Finally, participants were asked to complete a “Literary Asset

Inventory form” and some of those were returned in the meeting, and are transcribed here as **Appendix 9**. It is the intention of the committee to follow up with more questions of these and others in the community to complete the inventory.



Appendix 1

Opening Remarks by Jacqueline Massey

Hello and welcome. Thanks to everyone for giving up a Saturday in June to be here. I'd like to give a special welcome to Lori Walker, who has travelled from the continent this morning to join us. Lori is a Project Manager for Literacy within the 2010 Legacies Now organization.

For those of you who don't know me, my name is Jacqueline Massey. Among other roles, I am the Executive Director of the Bowen Island Arts Council, and Coordinator of Literacy Bowen.

I'm really excited to be among such a dedicated, passionate group of people. And I feel really fortunate to know so many of you. So why are we here? Literacy Now is a program affiliated with 2010 Legacies Now, a provincial government initiative aimed at creating legacies that benefit residents of BC as a result of hosting the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games.

Currently, across the province there are 72 literacy task groups, 227 communities and more than 1,000 community partners participating in the Literacy Now program, which guides task groups through a planning process to address local literacy needs.

Locally, connection to the program was initiated by Murray Atherton back in 2005, when he filled out an Expression of Interest on behalf of Bowen. Things really got rolling in the late fall of 2006 when a program launch was planned. But there were a number of setbacks, including a patch of particularly wicked storms causing island-wide blackouts and requiring the cancellation of various meetings. A new committee convened some time later and a very successful community launch was held last October. Following that a Task Group was formed and that very capable group moved us forward to today.

Personally, I had very little to do with that. Ken Beatty lead the committee up until a week or so ago. But work and travel has whisked him away. So while I'm not exactly playing the role of Ken Beatty, I am here in his stead. The core group who have been key to bringing us to this point include Murray Atherton, Teal Ander, Ben Tamblyn, David Langmuir, Sue Bell, Andrea Little, Helen Wallwork, Jane Kellet, and Carol Cram.

So, what is literacy? In it's simplest form it refers to the ability to read and write. But in a wider context, and in today's ever-changing world, literacy can encompass a range of skills. It may include essential culturally and socially relevant practices, mastering of new technologies or the gathering of knowledge exploring sustainable ways to live on our planet.

Literacy projects in other communities have included such things as – high school social studies students working with city councillors to develop civic issue papers; a campaign aimed at creating awareness and understanding about anti-idling bylaws, the establishment of a village council introducing the Natural Step process of community environmental health; seniors and school children participating in an intergenerational literacy, oral history project; an alternative public transportation program involving co-op vehicles. Clearly, creative solutions to improve opportunities are endless.

It has been suggested that a literacy plan for Bowen should be designed with the goal of enhancing life and learning on this island.

But what will a literacy plan for Bowen look like? Well, that's where you, as stakeholders, come in to the picture.

We've invited you because you have demonstrated that you care about this community, about life-long learning, about the health and welfare of residents here on the rock. You run programs and offer services that educate and support everyone on this island from our youngest residents to our most senior elders. You make a real difference, and you have the expertise, background and knowledge that we need to build a vital and effective plan.

When you arrived this morning we gave each of you a form with a list of questions regarding the role or roles you play in our community. I would ask that you take a moment at some point today to jot down answers and return the form so we can compile a Literacy Asset Inventory.

But now I would like to introduce you to Carol McKinnon, our facilitator and award-winning human resources consultant. Carol MacKinnon is an associate of The Coaching Project, Inc. where she delivers iLeader Coach training and individual and team coaching. She has been a consultant, a leader, innovator and teacher in the Human Resources field for 30 years. Carol is also the co-writer of *Leadership Alchemy: The Magic of the Leader Coach*, which the National Post named in 2003 as one of the top ten Business Books in Canada. Please welcome Carol McKinnon.

I'd just like to say thanks to everyone once again for their time today and tell you about our next steps. The planning committee will meet shortly to review what we've heard and learned from you today. You've developed a vision and goals. We will create a community profile, compile a literacy inventory, and develop an action plan. We will ask you for your feedback on that plan. And then we will proceed to submit the plan to 2010 and apply for funding for implementation. We expect this process to take from 6 – 8 months. We welcome your involvement and assistance. Please be reminded to leave us the forms and make sure you've signed the email contact sheet so we can keep in touch.

Appendix 2: Pairs Introduction interview guide

Pairs Introduction A chance to get to know someone new...

Your name: _____ Who you are introducing: _____

Pair up with another participant,, preferably someone you don't know. You'll be interviewing each other for **5 minutes each** and then reporting to the full circle for **30 seconds** ONE highlight of your conversation.

- Her/his name, what 'learning community/communities' she/he is from, how long on Bowen Island, and
- a summary to the 2 questions below. (As the interviewer, try to take a few notes, but don't at this point engage in dialogue...your role is to gain some new insights about this other person, to share with the larger circle.)

1. Tell me about **a time** in your life on Bowen Island when you felt most alive, most engaged and really proud to be part of this community.

2. If you could have any **three wishes** granted to heighten the vitality and health of Bowen Island as a Learning Community, what would they be?

i.

ii.

iii.

Once you've had five minutes interviewing your partner, you become the "interviewee" and it will be your partner's turn to draw you out. We'll be collecting these so please make a few notes of your conversation. **THANK YOU!!**

Appendix 3

Transcribed Notes of each interview

Teal Ander: Representing Bowen Youth Centre, Community School, all the schools on Bowen, the Re-Use it club, and key player on Literacy Now task force

- a. Winterfest, connecting with learning community, kids, parents
- b. Re-Use it store; Better transportation, Enhanced communication, a pool

Andrea Little: representing the Library Board;

- a. Volunteering for Voices in the Sound; really involved, met people, through an activity geared to all ages (made new acquaintances, contributed to part of something)
- b. More involvement of youth (not here?) are there opportunities for youth to be involved/.contribute/give back; community actively creating opportunities for youth to be involved; how to ensure adequate opportunities that are safe and supervised for kids doing things after school

Diane Marshall:

a: March 5, 2008: re-use it committee met with children from all 3 schools, all ages brainstorming ...people of all ages involved with youth, enthusiasm, good will, children's faces, here in Cates Chapel

b. child-centered re-use it shop; wisdom to respect everyone's voice; adequate resources to ensure success

Gary Ander

- a. The old Bowfest Time, people getting together, making floats, a real celebration of family, a real sense of community
- b. Communication, broader between communities; need to get back to people caring about each other, more community functions, fundraisers at the schools; community centre, a place to hang out – more interaction between different communities

Pauline LeBel, Founder of Voices of the Sound, Singing workshops

- a. First fundraiser for Cape Roger Curtis, the Voices in the Sound
- b. Outdoor centre; community centre; singing

Sue Ellen Fast

- a. the opening of Quarry Park to the Public
- b. Hear more from “on-island experts”, more lectures, particularly scientists; some elements of education regarding sustainability; inter-generational integration: new vehicles for sharing perspectives & skills; new tools for engagement

Helen Wallwork (United Church, Theatre on the Isle, Bowen Island Community School)

- a. the house fire in 1978, when the whole community responded, being a school teaching assistant
- b. swimming pool, community centre, Abbeyfield

Andrea Kaufmann (Conservancy; Emergency Services)

- a. Remembrance Day Services, and an experience of deep respect; Voices in the Sound and the singing
- b. Ongoing community lectures; classes online in a group: volunteers supported more; today's values could be taught and to enhance communication – NERPS, neighbours reaching out

Lorraine Ashdown

- a. Final performance of the Community Choir, Voices in the Sound
- b. More education under one roof, campus for informal and formal learning together; more performing arts; stronger links between youth & seniors

Susanne Martin (member of Arts Council, facilitator for a Vancouver-based initiative called “Stories of Compassion”)

- a. working with Grade 7 students at BICS, who wrote amazing stories; recorded at Artisan Radio, amazing experience
- b. more connection between people and organizations; sharing resources; bring different generations

Amy Nosek (learning centre)

- a. childhood on Bowen, beach forest, environment. Sharing love for this special place; different ways community comes together to help – share beaches, work in kids – creativity
- b. more opportunities for dialogue, sharing ideas, listening; nourish community & think beyond

Peter Frinton (Bowen Island Municipal Council)

- a. theatre on the isle
- b. ways to retain young people; enhance learning institutions; further learning opportunities

Tracy McLachlan (co-ordinator, Family Place)

- a. a Children's carnival on Bowen, a successful community event, committee of 7, with 75 volunteers, gathering 600 people in April at Bowfest field on a rainy day
- b. assist families to support love of learning in children's learning; connection of children and seniors

Karen Cowper (library program at IPS)

- a. success of IPS library program; Beaver program at BICS, Christmas Caroling party, live Nativity scene in cove
- b. Small children being excited about literature and words; older people discovering one another and the world through literature; summer camps – hold trips connected to trips

Helen Davenport (Montessori preschool)

- a. August 2006 BIMS staff climbed Mount Gardiner & camped
- b. More connected old/new mixing; doesn't grow too big/program doesn't spoil; we continue to embrace a love of learning

Julie Andres (editor of The UnderCurrent)

- a. performer in a Christmas 2005 concert
- b. people to be more open minded; use cars less; level of feeling safe increased

John Morrison (Seniors Keeping Young, Seniors Computer Club)

- a. coming together of walking group & connecting with Bowen Islanders
- b. list of available speakers for SKY – the island “Talent Pool”

Carol Cram (Capilano College Library)

- a. first meeting with Literary festival, realizing it was going to go
- b. develop writers’ festival into a learning event “Write on Bowen”; more continuing education courses

Morganne Keplar (here on behalf of Knick Knack Nook)

- a. helped pre-school/teen centre need, that needed to be done – 500 volunteers helped over a year, helped to build it in 1998
- b. a learning institute encompassing continuing education but also carpentry, building, landscaping and natural conservancy; housing – cross-section so a variety of people can live here, soon Bowen will be a gated community if we don’t do something about it; starting being self-reliant, food, production, light industry (making things with what we have here) so people can live and work on Bowen

Alvie Morrison (Friends of Library)

- a. Hallowe’en on Lenora: the children, teens, parents,giving candy back to the ‘circle’ homes, different than Vancouver, proud for the large participation
- b. Wishes for more access to the life experiences of Bowen Islanders; more about nature

Jayne Pivik (Knick Knack Nook)

- a. proud of kids who facilitated the community meeting to envision and plan the NNN (100 kids, 35 adults)
- b. become a child-friendly community – kids involved in decision-making, think about needs, plans, programs; NNN as a community meeting place to sit and talk; community asset mapping of individual’s knowledge & experience & abilities willing to share

Brad Ovenell-Carter (IPS)

- a. kitchen junkets
- b. get out of silos – come together, work together; like to see a better way of getting around Bowen without a car

Everard van Lidth de Jeude (Bowen Island Nature Club)

- a. organized, designed & built hiking trails on Mount Gardiner
- b. less bickering; not be in a rush to have everything tomorrow – there’s time enough; more youth involvement in all aspects of community

David Langmuir (principal of BICS)

- a. PAC/CSA celebration and year-end meeting this past week
- b. Foster eco-literacy within BICS c& community at large, classroom experience, community facilitators; enhance close collaboration between BICS and its many partners; enhance community connectedness among students

Alice Bernards (Mother Goose and “Telling Tales” literary group)

- a. the successful campaign to save the old General Store building
- b. to connect the generations within the community (to knock down the barriers within); to enhance awareness of story telling as a learning tool for all ages; realize the potential of the proposed Civic Facilities living room as a community connector

Bernice Lever (writer of poems & textbooks; involved in arts council, edit manuscripts, encourage people in their writing, tutor, still publishing)

- a. 2002 – read poetry at the top of Mount Gardiner, on United Nations website, event celebrated on mountains all around the world
- b. Get community arts centre to gather, dialogue & share; collaboration is important – amazing talent & experience in all areas of literacy computers to library to being good neighbours – can help those on the fringe of the richness of the life here; more reward for starting to implement

Lori Walker (with Legacies 2010, SFU, UBC Mother Goose and PALS)

- a. the ferry trip here
- b. reaching the hardest to reach residents; having residents proud of the literary plan, and establishing a timetable to implement it

Jacqueline Massey (executive director of BIAC, freelance writer, Winterfest coordinator)

- a. Community centre, funding for the community centre

Bonney McDowell (NERPS)

- a. singing with the community choir – rehearsals, concerts, sharing with others, feeling proud
- b. places where people can meet informally; invitation for people to share their knowledge; published list of expertise/topics

Emily van Lidth de Jeude (Bowen Community Connection)

- A. Running mothers – genuine contribution to the community, transition from receiver to giver
- B. Pulling people together – a ‘live hub’ for gathering and dissemination of ideas; take ownership of and feel empower by living here, being a part of the community, not needing to leave



Appendix 4:

**Revised draft agenda for the
Literacy Now Bowen Island Community Engagement Workshop,
June 7, 2008**

Desired Meeting Results:

- A greater appreciation of the breadth and depth of gifts, passions and expertise available on the island
- an understanding of the diverse opinions and perspectives of Bowen Islanders committed to LifeLong Learning
- an exploration of various options and alternatives for how to build sustainable community
- a sense of possible next steps towards a Literacy Now plan

Time	Activity	Comments
10:00 – 10:20	Getting Started	Introduction by Jacqueline, description of Purpose of Gathering, Introduction of Carol: - agenda review, roles, proposed norms for today (my role as timekeeper, process cop)
10:20 – 10:40	Pairs interviews	Participants ask each other two structured questions to learn more about who is in the room... 5 minutes each (see handout – we collect these)
10:40 – 11:00	Introductions	Interviewer introduces another to rest of community, 30 seconds each
11:00 – 11:15	Description of Open Space process	Question: What might we do collaboratively to enhance life and learning on Bowen Island? Create “Marketplace” of conversations
11:15 – 12:00	Round 1	First conversations (maybe 6 conversations) (provide report forms)
12:00 – 12:30	Lunch	
12:45 – 1:30	Round 2	Another 6 conversations
1:30 – 2:00	Report back	From first two rounds
2:00 – 2:15	At tables	What common themes did you hear?
2:15 – 2:30	Report back from tables	Common themes (12 tables, 1 minute each)
2:30 – 2:45	Generation of possibilities	Given what you’ve heard, what might we actually do? Action suggestions round – convening new action conversations
2:45 – 3:15	Round 3 Action suggestions	(provide action planning forms)
3:15 – 3:45	Report back of Action Suggestions	
3:45 – 4:00	Next steps	Jacqueline re: what happens with all this material, role of Planning Committee now, Thank You’s



Appendix 5: Powerpoint slides as Carol's speaking notes of Open Space and Dialogue Guidelines

LITERACY NOW BOWEN ISLAND June 7, 2008 Community Gathering Cates Hill Chapel

Dialogue Guidelines

- Be appreciative and generous of spirit: stay open to new ideas and perspectives
- Be disciplined in your participation: brief, focused, and on topic
- Speak personally: share good stories of living experience rather than set opinions or pet preoccupations
- Listen past defenses, past the familiar, past your certainties
- Inquire into assumptions: ask, e.g., What do you mean? Tell me more ... What leads you to believe this? How are you personally affected?
- Honour timeframes...it may feel too short....great!! Follow up to finish the conversation, later!



Appendix 6: Facilitator Speaking Notes regarding Open Space

- Developed out of a realization most meetings didn't 'work'
- People who care passionately about something will take responsibility!
- Concept is amazingly simple & powerful
- Temptation is to 'over-engineer' the process... "*Trust the process*"... believe in self-management

Here's how simple:

Open Space: 4 principles

- Whoever comes are the right people
- What happens is the only thing that could have happened
- Whenever it starts is the right time.
- When it's over, it's over.

Open Space: one law... The Law of Mobility

Move to wherever you need to go to maximize your learning and contribution

2 Fundamentals...

- Without **PASSION**, no one is interested
- Without **RESPONSIBILITY**, nothing will get done

SO – what are we searching for? The question is:

What might we do collaboratively to enhance life and learning on Bowen Island?

Convening the conversations

Think about the question...

Think about what **MOST** attracts you... do you want to convene a conversation about it?

–You do NOT need to be expert on the topic

– You should not have a fixed opinion or desire about outcome or conclusion of conversation

If yes, write a 'headline' on the paper so we can all see it (print clearly, with your name)

Step to the centre, say who you are, and what you want to convene a conversation about

Go to the Marketplace for when & where

"Bumblebees and butterflies"

-If you find the conversation not heading where you thought it might when you were attracted to it...use the law of Mobility! Move on, contribute elsewhere

•If no one joins your group...

-Join another one

-Make some notes of why this topic is important to you, to present to full group

How it works

- Explore the issues and opportunities around the question
- Generate Action Planning topics
- Identify actions and next steps

Convening a conversation....**In the small groups, the Convenor:**

- Facilitates to ensure all voices are heard, all participants practice deep listening

Ensure there are roles of:

- notetaker (use Open Space Report Form)
 - presenter (you'll have 2!!! minutes for highlights)
 - Timekeeper...be prepared to be directive!
- Everyone: Explore the topic... generate enthusiasm for ideas, participants

Appendix 7: Notes from Open Space Idea generation Conversations:

Round One generated the following topics:

1. Environmental Sustainability (Sue Ellen Fast)
2. Youth Engagement (Jayne Pivik)
3. Inventory of Island Expertise (Bonney MacDowell)
4. Promoting culture as an “eco-friendly good”, and Celebrating our unique place within the Islands Trust (Karen Cowper and Peter Frinton)
5. Music as an enhancement to life, learning and community (Pauline Lebel)
6. Promote social/emotional learning and create a culture of compassionate communication (Andrea Kaufman and Susanne Martin)

Round Two conversations:

7. Development of cross-generational activities (Diane Marshall)
8. Drive our cars less (Julie Andres)
9. Integrate online learning in groups (Andrea Kaufman)

Summary of Discussions:

1. **Environmental Sustainability**, convened by Sue Ellen Fast
 - fear around environmental issues, but need to make changes now, feeling pressure to make changes for climate change especially.
 - Ongoing way to support solutions, not just one time fixes
 - Undercurrent a venue to share stories of environmental sustainability – giving hope with practical examples
 - Need some kind of connecting structure to hold focus of environmental education and to bring various community groups together
 - Possibility of a coordinator role
 - Benefits of outdoor education for all ages
 - Learning about the environment through the arts as well as through science (observe closely)
 - Community Centre & BICS: examples of green building made visible, solid examples of good practice
 - Enabling skills and knowledge is empowering: there is such a confusing array of environmental living choices...some are fakes...how to choose? This is our big need
2. **Youth Engagement**, convened by Jayne Pivik
 - focus was Youth: 12 – 19 years old. Also on the transition years
 - Learning as holistic engagement, not just intellectual but also emotional, social, mental, spiritual
 - Engagement is a sense of empowerment, of having a voice in the community and in the decisions that affect children
 - Important to engage for civic awareness – contribute
 - Good for youth, good for the community, young people bring something different and have something real to contribute, in order for them to develop they have to shape their

environment, need support and training, learn how to convene meeting, rules of meeting,
- visit City Hall, school curriculum should include this!

- Tie engagement to community service,
- Ben highlighted fundraising where youth are supporting youth (i.e. camp) – we don't know about the great things youth are doing – Build on Himalaya trip – utilize those skills, bring all kids together around a project (Like Knick Knack) – focus on things that are relevant & appeal to wide range & variety of passions,
- Mentorship is important – older & younger, expand mentoring support (with training and support) consider sustainability
- Parent/Adult Education – utilize skills in community – we all have responsibility to support kids – reinforce community standards – Ben highlighted that as a professional he can feel isolated, having group like today to discuss/plan is valuable – professional connections
- Learning – media literacy –

3. **Inventory of Island Expertise** (Bonney McDowell)

- existing: Arts Council list & schedule – Bowen Wikipedia, Bowen Community Connection, One Day Bowen, Forum
- Collecting a list – questionnaire, interview, what available for?
- Using a list – location, online, newspaper, library
- Build a centralized database – will need a PAID coordinator (Use Literacy Now money, Use Bowen Community Connection to be Committee to write job description, plan, organization) – have a forum linked to it, and updated calendar of Activities & speakers, lectures, study groups, conversations, perhaps request programs, SKY, Theme coffeehouse

4. **Promoting culture as an “eco-friendly good”, and Celebrating our unique place within the Islands Trust** (Karen Cowper and Peter Frinton)

- We talked about culture as being something that:
 - o Brings people together
 - o Adds to the appreciation of our island environment
 - o Brings meaning to life in a profound way
 - o Can bring the community together as a whole
 - o Is also experienced in small groups or even as conversation
 - o Makes the need to consume material goods to some extent less tempting
 - o Begs a question of balance when it comes to the long term pay off of having made the investment of a community centre in which we hope will be a real place of coming together to experience culture in a community home.
- Ongoing promotion of cultural participation in diverse areas of arts & ideas: lectures, groups, performance arts

5. **Music as an enhancement to life, learning & community** (Pauline LeBel)

- music as a learning tool, research on brand new pathways, work with children with disabilities
- Mother Goose program uses minor keys
- Musical leadership is an issue

- Think of proposing the “F” words coming up with a large project to involve all singers of all voices

6. Promote emotional learning and a culture of compassion (Susanne Martin & Andrea Kaufman)

- Stories of Compassion – facilitating for children, adults... difficulties sharing – defining a cultural norm that embraces kindness,
- Beauty in diversity – economic of group life on island, cultural diversity (needs of program)
- Support families creating culture of empathy – agree to disagree – but cooperate
- Stories / privacy/asking for help/network
- Open Space format is one method (others?) to teach & learn guidelines - space for voices to be heard
- Understand what would facilitate sense of connection to begin process of doing collaboration
- Acceptance of difference – Teen Centre – transitions
- Fear, gossip – gender/generation/segregate numbers – mental health consultants

6b: Social and Emotional Learning (Tracey MacLachlan & Karen Cowper)

- talked about scope of social/emotional learning at different times of life
- lectures/offerings for children
- infant preparation for school
- parent support for parenting
- after school programs/summer programs
- lectures to give tool for life problems
- programs for elderly as separate from seniors
- Communicate what support is available
- Share information on lecture offerings

7. Development of Cross-generational Activities (convened by Diane Marshall)

- grandfriends – surrogate grand parents, connecting through the community – community gatherings that encourage cross-generational get-together (regular meetings with different twists)
- musical component – singing often happened (some families uncomfortable), bonfires
- craft skills becoming lost art – nice to bring this connecting – do it as a group – make a boat, gardening, cook, golf, spool knitting
- family stories – just passing on tales
- availability of older people for after school contact with kids – interested listener
- Dave Eggers – Ted Talks – help kids come together – become more literate – seniors just be there – writing together
- Organizations from BICS Learning centre, etc., purposeful engagement, communication between groups – coordinator there to let everyone know, avoid duplication
- How can existing groups come together (SKY, Family Place, Children’s Centre, etc.) – what’s here already?
- Groups/schools need to be more integrated

- Activities that can be done without age grouping
- Permeable barriers – community singalong – different choirs
- Familiar activities – sing about your place, what we are about
- Sports –adults coaching
- Mentoring opportunities
- Joyful – authentically enjoyed by everyone
- Board games/no win/no lose...
- Important to include seniors who can't get out, those in transition
- Need neighbourhood assembly place...fire places...centre where people can come to ask for help –
- Develop a coordinator

8. **Drive our cars less** (Julie Andres)

- cost/convenience barriers – tough to ride/walk
- car pooling/electric vehicles – car co-op; ride sharing; newer/bigger buses
- encourage hitchhiking – it's OKAY to thumb
- expand trail network
- taxi & buses – subsidized pass
- shift in attitude

Ideas: adults in the school bus in the morning

A carpooling database

Introduction of Electric vehicles inhibited by no on-island servicing, we could be a pilot project for electric vehicles

Trails that are not so challenging – meandering/project that runs up to BIMH

GPS cell phones – blip – need-a-ride

OVERKILL: seniors bus for \$32,000. No ridership, in their T.O.R. won't allow wider population use

Cultural elements: Education/marketing: What is an efficient car? – what are the consequences?

Tangible examples?

Truck co-op? one day a week

9. **Continuing Education of Online Learning** (convened by Andrea Kaufman)

- online learning with group “classroom” – university courses
 - develop brochure – advertised/organized by Coordinator
 - at School, free: lecture series, Ted Talks
 - education for kindness/compassion, deeper listening, openness, intention, safety
 - Tools for different age groups, help groups find commonality, Listing of groups on website
 - “Community Living” – the culture, education, skill sets, Learn together about communication skill sets, and task-oriented groups – expand the offerings
- Take mini-courses out to other groups – Emotional Literacy

Appendix 8: The community generated the following list of common themes from the earlier conversations and explored these in more depth:

Action Round 3 conversations:

1. **Coordinator/coordinators of community groups/activities & other resources** (network of coordinators?) – maintain database, a full-time, well-paid job (Bonney to convene)
 - a. 2010 Legacies Now – hopes to be able to provide funding for a “Community Literacy Coordinator”
 - b. Job descriptions and community plans already exist from other communities, and are available for review as we make our plan
 - c. Various scenarios – some communities have someone to make the plan, and then that person might continue on as the Official Coordinator
 - d. A database is a requirement for the Official plan – but our idea of mapping all the expertise available on the island is a broader idea

2. **Intergenerational events, gatherings, learning from each other**, engagement at all ages, free, fun – in a culture of non-judgment – respectful, compassionate (Andrea to convene)
 - Fundamentals of communication – principles of emotional/social learning
 - Intergenerational – across community – not fragmented – integrated
 - Goal: Work together – collaborate effectively – share resources
 - Group will:
 - o Continue to explore possible modalities for teaching/supporting opportunities for change
 - o Skills to explore Bowen Mind for other resources to promote awareness of self and others
 - o Network to explore/experience & model new style of communication
 - o Fear/gossip identified as barriers to Compassionate Bowen
 - o Develop tools to promote openness & acceptance
 - o Uniting other forms of expression

3. **Education – what is “literate”?** not necessary connected to letters: media literacy, music, emotions, spiritual literacy, developing new skills to promote lifelong learning, healthy brains, educating the heart, intergenerational mentorship, non-traditional forms, Climate Change, Leadership (Ben)

4. **Removing transportation barriers**, fewer cars, trails, environmental choices, increasing access (Teal)
 - a. **Access:** school buses, TransLink schedule (widely known? Website? How do we get this information? Phone book? One Day Bowen) Flag down works (thanks Peter K) – 2 runs to currently non-exist – 12 seats
 - b. **Buy the Abbeyfield Bus** – service, water taxis, teen centre, social events
 - c. **Municipal Support** – meeting with BIM, coordinator role
 - d. **Access computerized program for Ride share** – phone, blackberry, computer, education through media, collect names of interested volunteers
 - e. **Hitchhiking** – identifying card as a driver who has been screened and cleared as a driver who can pick up hitchhikers. Card in is window. HH would have same card.
 - f. **Develop trails & updated trail maps**

5. **Community Asset mapping**, community events, community grant/fund writer (Jayne)

Purpose:

- a. to pull people together
- b. to inform planning
- c. focused on an initiative
- Voluntary network/mapping for island-wide knowledge, experience and expertise – strengths-based – already a lot of resources!
- Advantage: support potential opportunities, networking, volunteer, employment, bartering opportunities, information sharing and mentoring
- Help organize events

Action Items:

- Conduct a community asset-map of strengths related to knowledge, experience and expertise
- Challenges: keeping it updated, electronic update must be built in – could be a summer job

Appendix 9: Preliminary Asset Inventory compilation

Name:	Bowen Island Conservancy
Serves:	all of Bowen
Goals:	Respect, stewardship, education, communication with larger organizations
Location	
When:	once a month
How many people:	all
Staffing:	volunteers
Resources:	funding, training, energy, equipment, educated volunteers, contributions, fundraising
Successes:	Quarry Park
What more?	
Better service?	
Partners?	Yes, the TLC
Links?	
Comments	

Name:	Bowen Community Connection
Serves:	Bowen Island community as a whole
Goals:	to be a hub of information, connection & resources for Bowen residents of all ages, income levels and backgrounds
Location	
When:	always
How many people:	everyone
Staffing:	volunteers, eventually one or two staff members
Resources:	knowledge
Successes:	Mothers' Place program, as it ran from 2004 - 2006
What more?	Become an umbrella organization pulling together island resources
Better service?	More publicity (hence more community involvement)
Partners?	Not yet
Links?	Primarily CHAC, and then all other programs
Comments	

Name:	Friends of the Library
Serves:	Library and whole community
Goals:	raise funds to support the library and book-related projects
Location	cottage #12, private homes
When:	all year long, sort books Thursday morning
How many people:	book users, whole community
Staffing:	volunteers
Resources:	whole community donates book year round
Successes:	book sale, mini book store in library foyer

What more?	
Better service?	Have a better sorting place (heat, bathroom)
Partners?	Provide books to groups
Links?	
Comments	

Name:	Seniors Keeping Young, and Seniors Computer Club
Serves:	mostly seniors but open
Goals:	learning, enjoyment, involvement
Location	Bowen Court, BICS
When:	Mondays, Sundays
How many people:	20 / 8
Staffing:	volunteers
Resources:	members contribute, volunteers
Successes:	meeting participants' needs
What more?	Get guest speakers, get WI for exercise
Better service?	above
Partners?	People are connected to other groups/BICS
Links?	many
Comments	

Name:	Bowen Island Community Choir
Serves:	Adult singers
Goals:	To create a community of singers and friends, to build connections between young and old
Location	Gallery at Artisan Square & Cates Hill Chapel
When:	Once a week
How many people:	65 in total
Staffing:	Paid director, accompanist & manager
Resources:	Grant money from Parks & Rec
Successes:	Every concert gets better!
What more?	More retreats & festivals
Better service?	More male singers
Partners?	no
Links?	Create one large performance including all musical groups
Comments	
Name:	Lorraine Ashdown, private tutor
Serves:	Children with learning challenges
Goals:	Assist children in gaining confidence in their literary skills
Location	Private office or in child's home
When:	daily
How many people:	
Staffing:	
Resources:	
Successes:	I have taught a profoundly dyslexic child to read

What more?	
Better service?	
Partners?	Share space/resource with other tutors on the island
Links?	
Comments	

Name:	Write on Bowen, & Literacy Festival
Serves:	Writers and readers
Goals:	To promote learning opportunities for writers through workshops at the Festival; to promote Bowen writers
Location	Artisan Square
When:	July 11 - 13
How many people:	
Staffing:	volunteers
Resources:	Grants – BC150, energy & volunteer time, expertise
Successes:	Since it's the first festival, the success so far is organizing it.
What more?	Make the festival an annual event
Better service?	Registrations
Partners?	Bowen Island Arts Council
Links?	Literacy, schools
Comments	

Name:	Bowen Island United Church
Serves:	Anyone who wishes to be served
Goals:	To be of service to the whole community
Location	Red church on Miller Road
When:	10:30 Sunday service, 24 hours a day
How many people:	The whole island
Staffing:	2 paid, 30 volunteers
Resources:	Collins Hall seats 75 de facto community hall for 40 years
Successes:	Being a growing presence on island
What more?	Engage more people
Better service?	
Partners?	United Church of Canada
Links?	We run a foodbank that is heavily used, so upkeep and enlarging facility is ongoing
Comments	We hold book clubs/discussion groups/.choir practice/children & youth services

Name:	Theatre on the Isle
Serves:	Community of Bowen
Goals:	To provide entertainment & enjoyment
Location	Please please please let it be in the new Community Centre
When:	Whe we get an appropriate venue
How many people:	As many bums in seats as we can get

Staffing:	Volunteers
Resources:	A board of 5 people with passion for theatre in all its forms
Successes:	The last 30 years of plays
What more?	Perform on new stage
Better service?	A new theatre
Partners?	
Links?	
Comments	

Name:	Bowen Island Undercurrent
Serves:	Community at large
Goals:	Communicate news, information, visual interest to community
Location	Overall island - Snug Cove
When:	Ongoing
How many people:	2500+
Staffing:	1.75 FTE
Resources:	Full production capability, prepress
Successes:	
What more?	Develop special issues
Better service?	More staff
Partners?	Yes – a large community newspaper group
Links?	Most (if not all) island groups use the Undercurrent at present
Comments	www.bowenislandundercurrent.com is growing its readership/unique viewers quickly and invites interaction. News is uploaded several times per week

Name:	Island Pacific School
Serves:	50 – 60 families with children in grades 6 – 9
Goals:	To give a liberal education to middle school students so they graduate with heads on their shoulders
Location	Island Pacific School, 671 Carter Road
When:	Regular school year
How many people:	50 – 60 students
Staffing:	Paid staff, 30-40 volunteers
Resources:	School with 4 classrooms, computer lab (25 computers), meeting rooms, library
Successes:	Our graduates, masterworks program
What more?	Double the size of the school
Better service?	Faster internet, better technology
Partners?	No
Links?	Could make a common campus for private/.independent school communities on Bowen Island (i.e., Montessori, Home Learning, etc.)
Comments	

Name:	Bowen Nature Club
Serves:	All
Goals:	To experience and learn and enjoy nature
Location	Bowen Island
When:	Monthly
How many people:	The community
Staffing:	Members
Resources:	People
Successes:	More awareness of our natural surroundings
What more?	Attract young Bowen Islanders
Better service?	More exposure
Partners?	Clubs nationwide
Links?	Conservancy/greenways
Comments	

Name:	Bernice Lever – personal: writer, editor, workshop leader
Serves:	Member of BIAC, United Church, Telling Tales, Legion, SKY & Literacy groups – serves many, I do free & paid advice on publishing and writing
Goals:	Helping/supporting/entertaining others
Location	Various
When:	Varied
How many people:	Hundreds/or dozens each year
Staffing:	BIAC ½ time; church full time
Resources:	All of the above
Successes:	Helping others: BICS writing workshop for 16 people
What more?	Promote Bowen talents off-island
Better service?	Fewer personal/family problems
Partners?	Varies – co-leaders/co-hosts
Links?	Yes - varied
Comments	

Name:	IPS Library Program
Serves:	55 students & their families & 3 rd world library
Goals:	To ensure students have the highest level of literacy possible for them, appreciation
Location	IPS
When:	Once a month visits
How many people:	
Staffing:	Volunteer support
Resources:	Sponsorships, school resources, Canadian food for the hungry
Successes:	55 kids reading 1200 books in 1 school year, and talking about ideas
What more?	It is working very well, but ensuring that ALL kids get the help they need to succeed at reading

Better service?	Access to a literacy expert
Partners?	Sponsors
Links?	
Comments	

Name:	Bowen Island Public Library/Reading Programs
Serves:	All residents and visitors to Bowen Island
Goals:	Please refer to attached mission statement and Board Ends
Location	Snug Cove
When:	Summer for school age; Sept.-May for babies & toddlers
How many people:	Each week: 10-20 families are served
Staffing:	Paid staff of 1.5FTE plus 30 volunteers
Resources:	Funding energy, volunteer personnel, physical space (limited)
Successes:	Establishing consistent story-time programs
What more?	Computer literacy for adults
Better service?	More staff and more space
Partners?	Other Interlink libraries, BCS, BI Children's Centre
Links?	Work with a location that has a computer lab and resources.
Comments	Would like to work with Phoenix on Bowen, with BICS, an early literacy initiatives or computer literacy.

BOWEN ISLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY ASSOCIATION



Slogan

BOOKS AND BEYOND

Mission Statement

The Bowen Island Public Library Association promotes lifelong learning, the love of reading, and the exploration of ideas, culture and knowledge in a welcoming, lively atmosphere.

Board Ends

The Bowen Island Public Library Association contributes to, promotes and stimulates the following end for the Bowen Island community:

- Individual self-development and lifelong learning
- An active cultural and intellectual life in the community
- Enjoyment of leisure time and activities
- Reading as a pleasurable and worthwhile experience
- Creating partnerships with our community
- Intellectual freedom
- Skill development and practical problem solving
- A well informed and knowledgeable public

Adopted December 10, 2003

Name:	Bowen Island Arts Council
Serves:	All residents and visitors to Bowen Island
Goals:	Promote the work and opportunities for artists; develop an awareness of our cultural heritage and artistic wealth; Offer various programs, including art classes, workshops, festivals, and other events
Location	Office at Artisan Square
When:	All year around
How many people:	400 plus
Staffing:	Paid staff of 1.2 FTE plus 40 volunteers
Resources:	Webpage with cultural directory; calendar of arts and cultural events;
Successes:	Mounting of various festivals; work towards the construction of a Community Hall & Arts Centre
What more?	Run a Gallery showcasing the work of artists
Better service?	More staff and more space; more long-term funding
Partners?	Bowen Island Municipality, recreational program providers, business sector, libraries
Links?	More collaboration between groups is essential
Comments	Our literary committee is dedicated to working with other groups to promote opportunities for exposure to and appreciation of all forms of the written word

Bowen Literacy Assets Inventory

Culture and Heritage

Aboriginal Organizations

Organization	contact person / address	Notes	
	Gerald Morriseau	Artist	
	Simon Tate	Raven Tales Artist	

Heritage Organizations

Organization	contact person / address	Notes	Serves primarily who/ age group
BOWEN ISLAND HERITAGE PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION	604-947-9146 PO Box 78 www.vcn.bc.ca/~bihpa Graeme Dinsdale	Actively promotes interest in Bowen Island's heritage. Projects include the Demonstration Garden, an inventory a heritage sites, school programs and the Award-winning Heritage Walking Tour, the 1928 Cottage Museum.	All ages
BOWEN ISLAND HISTORIANS	604-947-2655 / Fax 604-947-2615 Box 97, Bowen Island BC V0N 1G0 historians@hotmail.com Bev Underhill - 9759	Operate the Community Museum and Archives serving the public. Displays are created with community input. Researchers are welcome to the archives whose collections include historical photographs, Bowen newspapers and archived material from local organizations and a biographical data base. The museum and archives are operated by the Historians with funds raised by the July People, Plants and Places Tour, grants, and by memberships, donations and bequests. Volunteers are active in all aspects of displays, archival work and	All ages

		events.	
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Cultural Groups

Organization	contact person / address	Notes	Serves primarily who/age group
BOWEN ISLAND ARTS COUNCIL	Jacqueline Massey 604-947-2454 biac@vcn.bc.ca Box 211, Bowen Island, BC, V0N 1G0. 947-2454.	Since 1987 the Bowen Island Arts Council has coordinated classical music and jazz, visual and literary events. For information on the Bowen Island Arts Festival look for our web site: www.biac.ca	All ages
BOWEN ISLAND COMMUNITY CHOIR	Ellen McIntosh, Director 604-947-2211 Mary Bentley, Manager 604-947-2464	The choir is a non-profit society dedicated to promoting interest and education in the skill of choral singing for the enjoyment of its members and the community as a whole.	Teens, adults
BOWEN ISLAND COMMUNITY FAIR ASSOCIATION	604-947-2650 bowfest@hotmail.com Lorinda Strang –Pres Julie Ovenell-Carter – PR bowfest@hotmail.com	BICFA is a non-profit organization made up of volunteers who plan and present Bowfest, a traditional end of summer celebration that involves local participation and serves as a fundraiser for various island organizations.	All ages
COMMUNITY HALL & ARTS CENTRE (CHAC)	Paul Hoosen 604-947-2454 admin@biac.ca www.biac.ca	The CHAC committee, of the Bowen Island Arts Council, is committed to raising funds for a place to celebrate island culture in its myriad forms. CHAC has launched an ambitious fundraising campaign towards the construction of a multi-use facility dedicated to arts and community events.	All ages
ISLAND CLASSICAL CONCERTS	Cathy Peters 604-947-2529 Susan Munroe 604-947-0006	Organizing and promoting classical music concerts. We sponsor the annual Bowen Island Youth Spring Festival/Workshop.	All ages
THEATRE ON THE ISLE	Ian Davidson 604-947-2648	Organizes and facilitates theatrical productions and readings.	Adults

<p>BOWEN ISLAND MUSIC ASSOCIATION (BIMA)</p>	<p>Lorraine Ashdown 604-947-0481 or 604-947-0849</p>	<p>Founded in the early 90's, BIMA exists to support the production and performance of live musical entertainment on Bowen Island. We are committed to Bowen resident artists and support a range of talent levels, from emerging to accomplished, off-island professional artists are often presented at BIMA productions. BIMA events include a 10-year coffeehouse series, Howe Sounds ('97, '98), Endangered Species ('00-'02), Fruit ('01), and Garnet Rogers ('02).) BIMA also supports artists, and other organizations, through the affordable rental of a full, professional sound system.</p>	<p>All ages</p>
<p>BOWEN ISLAND JUGGLING CLUB</p>	<p>Paul Stewart 604-947-9180</p>	<p>Organizes weekly practice sessions for jugglers of all ages and every level and participates in community events such as the Children's Carnival and Bowfest.</p>	<p>All ages</p>
<p>BICS PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL</p>		<p>The PAC is made up of parents of students currently enrolled in the school. The association supports the education and welfare of the students and participates in the School Planning Council, the District Parent Advisory Council and the BC Confederation of Parent Advisory Councils.</p>	<p>All ages</p>
<p>BICS COMMUNITY SCHOOL ASSOCIATION</p>	<p>604-947-9337 Sarah Haxby</p>	<p>Since 1980, the CSA has supported the children, staff and parents of BICS. Every Bowen resident is eligible to become a member of the The CSA recognizes that our community school is the hub of our community, a place where a wide range of cultural, educational, recreational activities and</p>	<p>All ages</p>

		meetings are carried out. The CSA supports the use of the school by the community and in turn, the community is able to play a role in nurturing the lifelong learning for all community members.	
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Libraries and Museums

Organization	contact person / address	Notes	Serves primarily who
BOWEN ISLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY	Tina Nielsen 604-947-9788 www.bowenlibrary.ca	The Bowen Island Public Library not only provides community library services, it also has computer terminals, organizes reading clubs and provides a venue for art shows and tutoring services. The library circulates more than 47,000 library materials annually and welcomes an average of 675 people through its door each week.	All ages
Friends of the Bowen Island Library	Lois Meyers-Carter 604-947-2440	The Friends of the Bowen Island Library host a mini bookstore in the library lobby as well as the annual Friends of the Library book sale. The Friends also organize a children's summer reading club, the annual dramatic reading of Dicken's Christmas Carol and authors' events.	All ages

Sports and Recreation Groups

Organization	contact person / address	Notes	
BOWEN ISLAND SOCCER CLUB	Burns Jennings - 2701	Bowen Island FC is a community based soccer club that was formed in 2007 as a means of encouraging people to participate in soccer on Bowen Island. The Club aims to develop soccer skills and abilities by focusing on small-sided	Youth, adult

		games and planning practices which are challenging and enjoyable in a supportive, safe environment.	
BOWEN ISLAND TAEKWONDO	Master Tony Kook	The Martial Arts School's mission is to enhance community values through positive personal development and inspire personal excellence in the school as well as all areas of life.	Ages 3 to adult.
BOWEN ISLAND GOLF CLUB	604-947- 4653 proshop@bowengolf.com Box 202, Bowen Island BC V0N 1G0 www.bowengolf.com Spencer Grundy - Manager	The Bowen Island Golf Club operates the spectacular Bowen Island Golf Course (BCGA rated, 9 holes). The Golf Club maintains a perimeter walking trail and organizes tournaments.	All ages.
BOWEN ISLAND HORSE OWNERS AND RIDERS ASSOCIATION	604-947-0942 Vivian Pearce, President bihora@yahoo.com	Supports local horse owners and riders and takes part in fundraising activities, horse shows and competitions.	Youth, adult
BIM PARKS AND REC	Christine Walker 604-947-2216 Fax: 604-947-9458 E-mail: bjprc@bimbc.ca	Provides community and recreation programming and events for Bowen Island.	All ages.
BOWEN ISLAND MEN'S FASTPITCH LEAGUE/ BOWEN ISLAND SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION	Glen MacGregor	Bowen Island Men's Fastpitch League coordinates practices and games and posts news, stats and standings.	Youth, adult.
GYMNASTICS	D.G. Blair Whitehead 220-1394	Bowen Island Gymnastics Club provides the community with recreation and competitive programs. The role of the program in the community includes not only acting as a focus for gymnastics but operating as a support mechanism for other sports and arts organizations.	Ages 1 to 18
BOWEN ISLAND DANCE ACADEMY	Miranda Widgery-Webber 947-9258	Offers a variety of high-quality dance classes for all ages and levels.	Ages 3-16.

Education

Head Start Programs

Preschools and Day Care Centres

Organization	contact person / address	Notes
Bowen Island Community Daycare	650 Carter Road 604-947-9628	Quality, licensed care for children aged 3 years old through kindergarten in a bright, spacious, well-equipped facility with large multi-level playground and garden. Skilled, caring and knowledgeable ECE certified teachers provide stimulating, creative, educational activities. Before school care offered for children in Preschool through grade five.
The After School Club	Bowen Island Community School 604-947-9665 Fiona Error! Contact not defined. also representing Bowen's Children's Centre	Licensed out of school care for children grades one through seven, and also those enrolled in afternoon kindergarten. Located at Bowen Island Community School. Open weekday afternoons when school is in session. Caring, creative staff members supervise a variety of indoor and outdoor activities, and provide a healthy snack. Relaxed social atmosphere.
BOWEN ISLAND FAMILY PLACE ASSOCIATION.	604-947-6976 coordinator@bowenislandfamilyplace.com Tracy MacLaughlin	Family Place, a non-profit organization, was established in 1989 to support and enrich family life on Bowen Island. Family Place is a drop-in centre for parents/caregivers and their children ages 0-6, and offers children an opportunity to interact with other children and adults in a supportive and stimulating environment. The program includes a variety of developmentally appropriate activities, healthy pot-luck snacks and circle-time. Special features include: French Program on Wednesday, Mother's Place Program on Fridays, free lunch on Wednesday and Thursdays, parent resource library and clothing/toy exchange.

Public and Independent School Districts

Organization	contact person / address	Notes	
SCHOOL DISTRICT 45 WEST VANCOUVER	Jane Kellett and Coral Winfield	The Bowen Island Community School is part of the West Vancouver School District (WVSD). BICS has two parent groups that offer volunteer opportunities to	All ages

		parents of BICS students and to community residents (BICSA and BICSPAC). See website www.sd45.bc.ca/bowen/index.htm .	
BOWEN ISLAND COMMUNITY SCHOOL District 45	Dr. Langmuir, Principal 604-947-9337 Public Elementary School (Kindergarten to Grade 7) Continuing Education Adult Learning Centre Facility / Equipment Rental	The Bowen Island Community School's mission is to meet the educational needs of our community of learners, so that members will be inspired to pursue life-long learning. We provide diverse, stimulating learning experiences in a supportive environment that fosters mutual respect and shared responsibility.	Ages 5 to 13.
BOWEN ISLAND MONTESSORI SCHOOL	Helen Davenport 604-947-9039	Provides a learning experience based on Montessori philosophy with the motto: "Where learning is fun." We offer a safe, nurturing and creative environment for 2 1/2 to 6 year olds.	Ages 2 1/2 to 6.
ISLAND PACIFIC SCHOOL	Brad Ovenell-Carter 604-947-9311	Grades 6 - 9 independent IB middle school offering an academic/arts curriculum complimented by outdoor pursuits and community service activities. The school's motto is "learning to make a difference."	Ages 10 to 15
THE LEARNING CENTRE (SCHOOL DISTRICT 40 NEW WESTMINSTER)	Alan Saugstad 947-2337	Publicly funded program providing a range of options for families wanting a high degree of involvement in their child's education. Home/community-based education combined with small-group classroom learning enriched by field trips, workshops and mentoring.	Ages 5 to 16
THE LOVE OF LEARNING	Amy Ransom	Fosters a supportive group-learning environment with stimulating educational activities and individual lesson plans.	Ages 5 to 14.
TIR-NA-NOG THEATRE SCHOOL SOCIETY	604-947-9557	Intensive, unique, year-round courses and performances opportunities for young people in theatre arts. Annual six-week Festival of Plays in May and June. 14th year. A registered, non-profit charitable society.	Ages 5 to adult
SERIOUS PLAY	Saffron Gurney 604-818-4420	Small group classes and programs that foster creativity and play.	Children, youth

OCEAN PACIFIC ACADEMY	Doug Hillhouse 604-947-0103	Offering a comprehensive ESL curriculum designed to target and improve all areas of language learning. This is augmented with professional English that is an essential tool in today's competitive job market. We also offer extensive outdoors and arts programs.	Youth, adult.
AIM	Matt and Wendy Maxwell 947-0015	Innovative language learning program (FSL/ESL) that incorporates gestures, music and theatrical productions. Program is applied in local schools as well as the global community.	Ages 4 to 16.

Employment

Employment and Assistance Centres

Training Centres

Organization	contact person / address	Notes	
Cocoa West	Joanne Mogridge 947-2996	Training centre for chocolatiers.	

Child and Family Development

Success by Six (NOTE: Family Place gets fundraising)

Recreation Centres

Organization	contact person / address	Notes	
Tunstall Bay Clubhouse	Tunstall Bay Community Association 947-2510	Clubhouse and pool facilities of Tunstall Bay neighbourhood. Available for rent for community members and groups.	

Youth Centres

Organization	contact person / address	Notes	
BOWEN ISLAND YOUTH CENTRE	947-2717	The Bowen Island Youth Centre provides recreation, programming, counseling outreach and employment for youth and operates the Youth Centre facility.	Youth.

Social Development Agencies

Government Ministries and Agencies

Health

Health Care Providers

Organization	contact person / address	Notes	
NORTH SHORE HEALTH			
BOWEN HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS			
WELLNESS CENTRE	Sandy Logan		

Mental Health Organizations

Crisis Support Organizations

Organization	contact person / address	Notes	
New safe house	Peter Frinton 947-9412	Provides emergency accommodation for victims of domestic violence and abuse.	

Wellness Centres

Organization	contact person / address	Notes	
XENIA	Xenia Creative Development Centre Angeline Toth RR 1 N-59 Bowen Island BC Canada V0N 1G0 Tel (604) 947-9816 Fax (604) 947-9076 office@xeniasanctuary.com Web Site www.xeniasanctuary.com	Xenia is a beautiful 38-acre Sanctuary in the heart of Bowen. Inclusive of all traditions, spiritual studies and cultures, it is eclectic, non-dogmatic and offers a doorway through which one can know one's true nature as a direct experience.	
THE ORCHARD RECOVERY CENTRE	The Orchard Recovery and Addiction Treatment Center P.O. Box O-38 Bowen Island, BC V0N 1G0\ Lorinda Strang Telephone: 1-866-233-2299 or (604) 947-0420 Facsimile: (604) 947-0412	Residential addiction treatment centre for drug, alcohol and substance abuse.	

Government Ministries and Agencies

Organization	contact person / address	Notes	

Business and Financial

Community Economic Development Agencies

Trade Unions

Professional and Business Associations

Organization	contact person / address	Notes	
Realtors Association	Carmen Dives MACDONALD REALTY 604-802-8267 carmendives@shaw.ca	Association of local realtors.	

Chamber of Commerce

Organization	contact person / address	Notes	
BOWEN ISLAND CHAMBER OF COMMERCE	604-947-9024 PO Box 199. www.bowenland.org info@bowenland.org <i>Tim Rhodes – Pres</i>	Membership-based community business organization dedicated to supporting island tourism, local business and small and home-based business. For information on Chamber initiatives, please call our office. Join the Chamber and share in our mission to enhance sustainability of our local economy, culture and community.	Business community and membership
PHOENIX ON BOWEN	Julie McCaig 947-2793	Community book store, organizes readings and literacy events.	
NEIGHBOURHOOD ASSOCIATIONS			

Credit Unions and Banks

Organization	contact person / address	Notes	
FIRST CREDIT UNION	Murray Atherton – Chair 947-2022 #101-475 Bowen Island Trunk Road PO Box 190 Bowen Island, BC V0N 1G0	First Credit Union and the community of Bowen have emerged as partners to bring banking to the island. As a partnership we offer all the financial services of First Credit Union and maintain the dedication to strengthening the local economic and social needs of Bowen Island.	

Community Service Organizations

Organization	contact person / address	Notes	
ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS	604-434-3933	Weekly meetings of support groups. Monday-9:15am – AA Woman’s meeting, 111 Miller Rd Tuesday-7:15pm, B.I. Tuesday Group-United Church Wednesday-7:15pm Al Anon, 1126 Miller Rd Friday-7:15pm B.I. Friday Group, 111 Miller Rd	
ABOL (ANOREXIC, BULIMIC, OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS)	604-947-9003	Weekly meeting of support group for eating disorders.	
ABBEYFIELD HOUSE OF BOWEN ISLAND SOCIETY	Graham Ritchie 604-947-9373 Fax 604-947-0374	Supportive housing for seniors.	Seniors.
BOWEN ISLAND AMBULANCE SERVICE	Dale Gagne Stn: 604-947-2594 Fax: 604-947-0621	The BC Ambulance Service maintains Station 225 here on Bowen. The station is staffed with paramedics every day of the year. Full training and statistics can be found at www.apbc.ca British Columbia Ambulance Service 1034 Miller Rd, Box 99 Bowen Island, B.C. V0N-1G0	
FIRE DEPARTMENT BOWEN ISLAND VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS	Brian Biddlecombe 604-947-9324	Proud to serve Bowen Island with dedication and professionalism. Chief Brian Biddlecombe	
BOWEN ISLAND DISABILITY COALITION	Susan Bell 604-947-0578 (voice) sbellwalker@aol.com	Citizens working to ensure that Bowen Island is a caring and accessible place for all. Current activities include: educating for accessible	People with disabilities.

		buildings, public gatherings, outdoor areas, and transportation, e.g.: wheelchair access, assistive listening devices, signage; conducting disability awareness training with people providing public, community and commercial services; providing information on disabilities and related issues to the general public; loaning an infrared hearing assistive device for meetings and performances.	
BOWEN ISLAND COMMUNITY FOUNDATION	432 Cardena Road PO Box 18 604-947-0333 www.bowenfoundation.com info@bowenfoundation.com Bruce Greyell – Chair Murray Atherton – Vice Chair – 0333	The Bowen Island Community Foundation, a non-governmental community foundation was founded in 2003 and consists of a 7-member Board of Directors who are responsible for the overall policies and practices of the Foundation. Our Mission is To enrich the quality of life on Bowen by: Attracting, developing and managing permanent endowment funds through responsible stewardship. Assessing and responding to existing, emerging and changing community needs through grants to eligible organizations. Providing a way for individuals and organizations with varied interests and levels of financing to contribute back to their community both during and after their lifetime.	
SMOOTH STONES FOUNDATION	604-947-2335 Gary Ander	Smooth Stones is a non-profit organization that provides funding for community groups and	

		initiatives.	
CNIB	604-947-2129	Bowen Lodge by the Sea is an ideal destination for your group retreat, conference, workshop, business gathering or social events The lodge is operated by CNIB.	
CAMP BOW ISLE	Jon Heath 604-947-2500	Camp Bow-Isle is a summer camp for Christian Scientists located on Bowen Island. Camp Bow-Isle offers a variety of sessions throughout the summer for children and young adults, and also offers a family camp for all ages.	
BOWEN ISLAND FISH AND WILDLIFE CLUB	Hatchery: 604-947-2215 Streamkeepers info: 604-947-0630	Operates the Terminal Creek Salmon Hatchery; meets 1 st Wed. of each month at the hatchery. Members of the Pacific Stream Keepers Federation.	
BOWEN ISLAND FOREST AND WATER MANAGEMENT SOCIETY	604-947-0016	The Society raises funds to research forestry and water issues. The Bowen Island Geolibary CD contains a comprehensive collection of this information (\$10 at the Pharmacy). Ongoing projects include mapping watrcourses, wetlands, and hiking trails. Trail maps are available at the Chamber of commerce. Lifetime membership is \$20. Visit us at: www.bowenisland.info	
BOWEN ISLAND GARDEN CLUB	Ann Davidson, Membership: 604-947-2248 Box 271, Bowen Island, V0N 1G0 Lynn McArthur – Pres – 0709	Meets the 3 rd Monday of each month, excluding July and August from 1:00-3:00pm at the Gallery, Artisan Square. Check the Island Calendar in the Undercurrent for details of speakers. Club activities include annual plant sale,	

		garden and nursery tours and social events. New members welcome.	
BOWEN ISLAND CONSERVANCY	604-947-0483 Sue Ellen Fast, Chair PO Box 301.	Protects and restores the unique natural settings of Bowen Island, neighbouring islets and surrounding waters through working with land holders and others. To inquire about making a gift to nature, protecting the special natural features of your land into the future, or to get involved in Bowen Conservancy activities, contact us.	
BOWEN ISLAND ECO ALLIANCE	604-947-0679	The Eco-Alliance is made up of individuals and families that live on Bowen Island who share the goal of protection and preservation of our natural resources and the rural lifestyle.	
ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION, BRANCH 150	604-947-9523 Nairn Knipe – President – 0210		
BOWEN ISLAND MEMORIAL GARDEN SOCIETY	Jacqueline Bakker: 604-947-9565	A non-profit organization to help maintain and upgrade the garden. Planning ahead a 2 acre permanent garden park – aiming it to be an interactive place for the community. The major fundraisers are The Plant Sale and Bazaar Sale on the 1 st Saturday of May and the People, Plants and Places tour on the 3 rd weekend of July. A tax receipt will be issued for gifts over \$15.00.	
BOWEN ISLAND RECYCLING DEPOT (B.I.R.D.)	Bill Carr – Pres - 0032	The BIRD team of volunteers runs the depot located on Mt. Gardner Rd. beside the Highways	

		Works yard. A team of volunteers and part-time coordinator operates one of the most cost-efficient recycling operations in B.C.	
BOWEN ISLAND CHRISTMAS HAMPERS	Linda Pheiff: 604-947-9625 Cheryl Evans: 604-947-0560	Community sponsored resource for families in need at Christmas.	
BOWEN ISLAND TRAILBUILDERS ASSOCIATION	604-947-2150	The Association's effort focuses on the construction, mapping, maintenance and enjoyment of a network of pedestrian, equestrian and bicycle trails for the benefit of Bowen residents and visitors. Trailbuilding and use is promoted as a safe, healthy, family and community contribution to Bowen's recreational resources.	
BOWEN NATURE CLUB	Billie Gowans: 604-947-2452 gowans@sfu.ca	Promotes the understanding and enjoyment of nature, especially on Bowen Island, through nature walks, family camps, talks and publications. Affiliated with the Federation of BC Naturalists.	
CAWES (Coast Animal Welfare Education Society)	CAWES@bowenland.com President: Angie McCulloch 604-947-9737 Directors: Iris Carr 604-947-0032; Rosalee Parish 604-947-2149; Alison Downie 604-947-2224; Carol McNaughton 604-947-2990; Diana Taylor 604-947-2242	Founded in 2000, CAWES is charitable, non-profit, volunteer organization that cares about the welfare of Bowen's pets, strays, and wildlife. We capture strays for sterilization; find foster and adoptive homes for abandoned animals; offer food and sanctuary to strays and wildlife; reunite pets with families; and offer guidance to the community.	
NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS		Weekly meetings of support group.	

SENIORS KEEPING YOUNG (SKY)	April Sear 604-947-0989	Provides weekly programming for seniors with focus on dancing, exercises, socializing, speakers and discussions.	Seniors
BOWEN COURT		Seniors' and assisted living units.	Seniors

Community Futures Organizations

BOWEN ISLAND IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION	604-947-0948 / 604-947-2470	Working with the community for the better governance of Bowen Island.	
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Justice and Legal

Restorative Justice

Legal Aid

Service and Support

Spirit of BC Community Groups

Organization	contact person / address	Notes	
BOWEN ISLAND SPIRIT OF BC	Murray Atherton – Chair – 0333		

Literacy Organizations

Organization	contact person / address	Notes	
LiteracyNow BC	Leona Gadsby and Lori Walker		

Volunteers

Social Planning Agencies

Transition Agencies

Organization	contact person / address	Notes	
BC Ferries	604-921-7414	BC Ferries operates the hourly ferry service connecting Horseshoe Bay with Snug Cove, Bowen Island.	
Bowen Transportation	Peter King	Regular bus service for two major routes. Meets ferries.	
Coastal Link Ferries	Peter Green	Passenger ferry service to downtown Vancouver (two runs at peak commuting time).	

Bowen Island Express (operated by Granville Island Watertaxi)	Kelli 604-293-1160	Passenger ferry service to Granville Island (hourly service).	
Cormorant Marine (Water Taxi)	604-9472243	Provides late-night passenger services from Bowen Island to Horseshoe Bay and back.	

Media

Organization	contact person / address	Notes	
The Undercurrent	Julie Andres: 604-947- 2442	Weekly community newspaper covering news, community events, opinions.	
Bowen TV	George Zawadski: 604- 220-0321	Free community TV channel available on the internet. Covers and broadcasts community news, events and concerns.	
Artisan Radio	David Chamberlain: 778-887-2346	Local radio station available on Bowen Island and on the internet. Features local talents as well as classics.	

Faith Organizations

Churches		
BOWEN ISLAND COMMUNITY CHURCH	Barb Weismiller - 604-947-2430 Pastor Bob Quicke - 604-437- 7270	1070 Millers Rd. @ Bowen Court www.bowencommunitychurch.org
BOWEN ISLAND UNITARIANS	Alan Boysen 947-9191	Liberal religion for the open minded and searching heart. Sunday services 10:30a at the North Shore Unitarian Church in West Vancouver September-June. Occasional gatherings here on Bowen.
BOWEN ISLAND UNITED CHURCH	Rev. Shelagh MacKinnon 947- 9382	Worship & Sunday School 10:30am. 1120 Miller Rd.
CATES HILL CHAPEL	David Anderson 947-4260	661 Carter Rd 10:30 Worship & Sunday School www.cateshillchapel.com
ST. GERARD'S CATHOLIC CHURCH	988-6304	1111 Miller Rd. at Melmore Sunday Mass - 10:30 am. http://StGerards.rcav.org
RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS (QUAKERS)	Beverly Rogers 947-2681	First and Third Sundays of the Month. Enquirers welcome.

Community, Village, Band, and Municipal Governments

Organization	contact person / address	Notes	

Bowen Island Municipality	947-4255	Bowen was established as the only Island Municipality in British Columbia in December 1999. It is an island within the Islands Trust jurisdiction. Its Letters Patent states that the Municipality “shall support the object of the Islands Trust.” A member of Metro Vancouver, the Municipality is one of the fastest growing areas, with a population increase of 13.7% between the 2001 and 2006 Census.	
RCMP	Non-emergency 947-0516 1017 Miller Road P.O. Box 219 Bowen Island, B.C. V0N 1G0		
Emergency Services	Non-emergency 947-2594	The BC Ambulance Service maintains Station 225 on Bowen Island. The station is staffed with paramedics every day of the year.	
NERP Neighbourhood Emergency Resource Program	Reidun van Kervel 947-2276	The role of the NERP is to keep information about people and equipment in their neighbourhood that could be made available in serious emergencies, help put residents in touch with the best person to assist with a particular emergency need and act as communication facilitators in times of serious island emergencies.	