



November 1, 2021

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cc:
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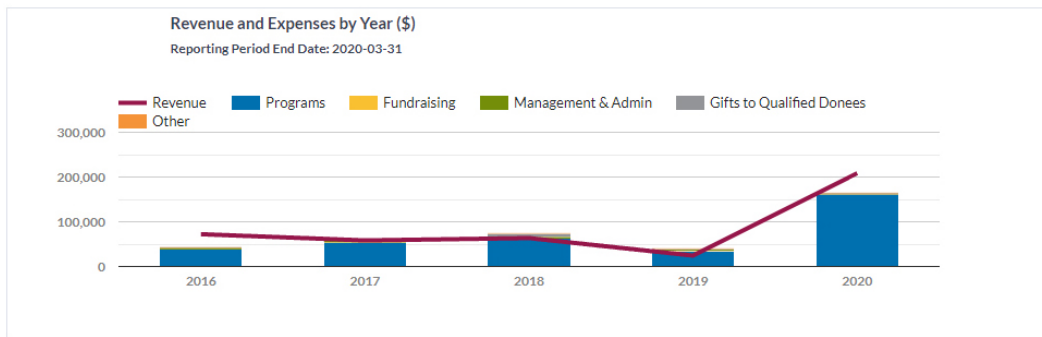
Galiano Island Local Trust
 Committee
 c/o Brad Smith
 Island Planner, Southern Team
bsmith@islandstrust.bc.ca

Dear Jane,

Thank you for your email of October 25th to Crystal Mountain’s Rezoning Committee. We understand there has been some community concern regarding our income and expenditures as a non-profit society. Like most charities, we take in funds to support our objectives and programs. As our programs are wholly run through volunteer labour, our expenses are high for program support and zero for staff. Spending money on our programs does not make us **“more of an economic venture”** as those opposing our Rezoning Application have recently questioned.

Our current fundraising campaign is listed on our own website, as well as on Canada Helps and Benevity. The screenshot below is from [Canada Helps](#) which is available to the public.

Canada Helps reflects data from [CRA](#) as noted below, with CRA screenshots following.



0 FULL-TIME EMPLOYEES
 0 PART-TIME EMPLOYEES

\$0
 TOTAL COMPENSATION FOR ALL EMPLOYEES

\$2,415
 PROFESSIONAL & CONSULTING FEES

*Based on the information Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) provides to CanadaHelps on a quarterly basis.

[DONATE TO THIS CHARITY](#)

Reporting period ending: 2020-03-31

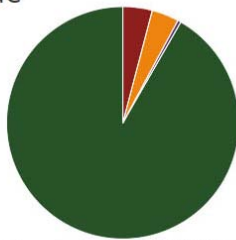
Programs and activities:

Ongoing programs:

TO PROMOTE THE STUDY OF RELIGION AND PHILOSOPHY BY TEACHING AND PRACTICING MEDITATION. TO PROVIDE SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES FOR RETREAT ATTENDEES AND OTHER CHARITABLE SERVICES IN BC.

New programs:

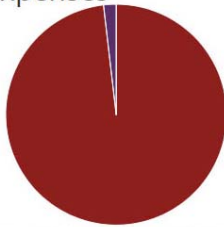
Revenue



- Receipted donations \$8,516.00 (4.08%)
- Non-receipted donations \$7,862.00 (3.77%)
- Gifts from other registered charities \$0.00 (0.00%)
- Government funding \$953.00 (0.46%)
- All other revenue \$191,299.00 (91.69%)

Total revenue: \$208,630.00

Expenses



- Charitable programs \$161,134.00 (98.16%)
- Management and administration \$0.00 (0.00%)
- Fundraising \$0.00 (0.00%)
- Gifts to other registered charities and qualified donees \$3,015.00 (1.84%)
- Other \$0.00 (0.00%)

Total expenses: \$164,149.00

Compensation

Total compensation for all positions

Full-time employees
Part-time employees

Professional and consulting fees **\$2,415.00**

Compensated full-time positions:

The question that has been raised is whether the \$189,230 makes the Society more of an “economic venture.” Your email stated: “In the March, 2020 statement there is reference to \$189,230 for the sale of goods and services. This last year that amount dropped to \$26,054. In 2020, we held a 4 1/2 month long silent meditation retreat (an Abidhamma) that brought in more income and created more expenditures.

Twenty eight retreatants were housed in eight north end homes housing one to four people each. Fees were collected for rental housing, including the teaching location, utilities, firewood, printing costs for study and teaching materials, and practitioner support for those needing financial assistance. People paid for the fees before the start of the retreat and the funds were dispensed monthly.

The CRA site shows 3 categories under revenue. The “all other revenue” are retreat fees. The expenses show that providing retreats is subsidized by donations. For example, these donations allow us to house retreatants in the summer on Crystal Mountain land without charging for accommodation.

The following is a more detailed explanation of
REVENUE AND EXPENSES FOR 2020 CRA REPORTING of the \$189,230 in question.

To put “Total revenue from sale of goods and services” in context the ‘sale’ is exclusively for services. CMS does not sell any ‘goods’. Our services are to provide the objectives of the society as declared in our constitution. This is a normal function of a charity and is not considered business activity by the CRA. We are not required to collect GST for this ‘service’.

Please refer to the expenditures to see the money spent on providing our programs. This particular year included a 4 ½ month silent meditation retreat attended by 28 people. We collected a course fee in various amounts to cover the cost of rental accommodation and food for those attending the program.

The \$28,000 discrepancy between revenue and expense represents the ‘sale’ of an upcoming program that has not happened yet. In this case the 2021 4-week summer retreat.

EXCERPTS FROM THE CRA WEBSITE https://apps.cra-arc.gc.ca/ebsci/hacc/srch/pub/t3010/v24/t3010Schdl6_dsplyovrvw

Revenue

Total revenue from sale of goods and services (except to any level of government in Canada)

Line number4640

\$189,230.00

Expenditures

Line number4930

COURSE AND RETREAT COSTS

Total expenditures before gifts to qualified donees (add lines 4800 to 4920)

Line number4950

\$161,134.00

Of the amounts at line 4950:

(a) Total expenditures on charitable activities

Line number 5000

\$161,134.00

(b) Total expenditures on management and administration

Line number 5010

(c) Total expenditures on fundraising

Line number 5020

(d) Total other expenditures included in line 4950

Line number 5040

Total amount of gifts made to all qualified donees

Line number 5050

\$3,015.00

Total expenditures (add lines 4950 and 5050)

Line number 5100

\$164,149.00

This information should answer the question. **Crystal Mountain Society, a CRA registered, charitable, non-profit organization in good standing, is NOT “more of an economic venture”.**

Sincerely,

Janice Oakley, Libby McClelland, Leslie Cain
Crystal Mountain Society Rezoning Committee