

Through horses, CTRA brings us together in the spirit of growth, inclusion, and possibility.



Cowichan Therapeutic Riding Association 2021 ANNUAL REPORT

The Cowichan Therapeutic Riding Association provides equine-based wellness programs for persons with disabilities. CTRA serves as a community hub of inclusion and a catalyst for human potential, enriching the lives of countless individuals and supporting key social determinants of health in our community.

ACTIVITY SUMMARY

CTRA continued to grow and thrive through 2021, despite the challenges of a continuing pandemic and a shortage of both instructor and horse power. However, we ran over 1700 sessions in 5 terms and held another fun-filled Halloween event with some amazing horse costumes and props to thrill our participants, volunteers and families.

As COVID restrictions slowly changed and lifted, we were able to bring back more and more participants, and welcome back even more volunteers to the facility. The daily pandemic-related duties eased the workload a bit for our barn staff, and the presence of more smiles around the place boosted everyone's spirits, which was needed as we navigated some extreme weather events! Some creative cooling techniques were employed during the heat dome to keep our precious horses cool and comfortable. Carrot and apple ice blocks were a welcome treat for some of our sweaty ponies on the really hot days.



A new face in the form of another large Clydesdale arrived and Noel is settling into the herd nicely, even if she is a bit demanding! This beautiful big beast will help accommodate some of our taller riders once she has a bit more training to get her focused on her important job. Noel was appropriately kitted out in some holiday finery for our costume event in October.

2021 offered quite a few professional development opportunities from multiple workshops for our instructors to the beginning of Pro-Equine Facilitated Wellness journeys for four of our instructors and Equine Assisted Wellness paths for two more. These qualifications allow for expanded unmounted programming as well as enrichment of our current streams with the philosophies and techniques of EFW and EAL.

Facility upgrades were also on the to-do list in 2021. Amazing work was done by our staff and volunteers in updating most of our electric fencing, putting in drainage, creating new paddocks, installing a new paddock shelter and upgrading the footing in the arena with the help of Stone Pacific Contracting and grant monies from Horse Council BC.



Another focus for this year was the development of a new strategic plan. Countless hours were devoted to identifying our strengths, weaknesses, threats and opportunities, and then evaluating our vision and mission with a view to our future goals and needs. The basis of a strong, positive and sustainability-focussed strategic plan was formed as a framework on which to build out the next few years of CTRA's operations and growth.

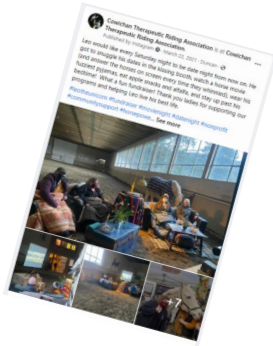
LOOKING FORWARD:

2022 will bring the completion of our next 5-year strategic plan, continued onboarding of new and returning participants, the certification of several new CanTRA instructors, and hopefully some more horsepower to the herd! All of these things will help CTRA focus on future growth and further sustainability in an ever-changing non-profit landscape.

REVENUE & SUSTAINABILITY

Continued generosity from our funders, horse sponsorships, and a few small but creative fundraising events have helped maintain CTRA throughout 2021. As always, monthly donors and our Returnables program via our Island Return It Bin offered a reliable trickle of funds, and our supportive community has continued to donate used tack to support our social enterprise in the Jane James Used Tack Shop.

New initiatives included Country Grocer Cobble Hill's Save-a-Tape program — an easy way to fundraise by collecting grocery receipts, and an exciting Valentines Day auction that included "Tea Party" picnic with Josefa, and a "Date Night with Leo, one of our most popular therapy horses.



The initial development of a new Strategic Plan has helped inform the search for sustainability as we develop our present, and plan our future. Having a map to follow allows for a more focused search for sustainable options, targeted fund development and revenue diversification. The changes in the non-profit world throughout 2021 informed our survival of the last few years, and continue to shape our future.

LOOKING FORWARD:

The drive for sustainability and independence never ends, but CTRA continues to work towards more self-generated funding and sustainable infrastructure. Investing in staff wellness and continuing to work with a Strategic Plan are both areas of focus looking forward into 2022.

VOLUNTEERING

THE VALUE OF ONE—THE POWER OF MANY

Throughout 2021, the challenge has been to keep our program running through the onslaught of Covid 19. Our volunteers have been exceptionally flexible and accommodating due to the constant changes in health protocol and cancellation of lessons due to illness. I would like to spotlight our Volunteer of 2021 by naming Ally Boyce. This incredible woman gave us over 330 hours of time working in our barn and acting as a horse handler for lessons!! Several other volunteers gave more than 90 hours throughout 2021. There was a total of 1185 lessons where our volunteers and caregivers participated in arena lessons. Another 884 hours of time was tracked in the barn, which I am sure is far short of what actually happened. We have amazing people helping our organization and this sentiment also goes out to each of our board members.

LOOKING FORWARD:

The plan for 2022 will be to introduce CTRA to a few of the local high schools, in hopes of getting some young people involved. It will also allow them to earn volunteer hours for their student graduation requirements. This recruitment will take place during the fall semester of 2022. The Chemainus Senior Centre will also be approached in June, to share some of the volunteer opportunities CTRA has to offer our retired folks. We all know that without our Rota of fantastic retirees, CTRA would be lost.

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

In a world of zoom meetings and mostly online communications, we knew 2021 needed to include some in-person fun. In October, we again welcomed our community of participants, families, volunteers and a few extras to the CTRA facility for a spectacular and spooky fundraiser we called Trick-or-Treat-a-Thon. Like our annual Ride-a-Thon, this was a pledge-raising event driven by our participants and supporters, raising over \$10,000! Staff went all out creating costumes and extensive props in the barn for walk-through trick or treating and a hot dog picnic.



As restrictions allowed, CTRA welcomed the community in hosting several "Night School" workshops by Cowichan Dressage Club. These fantastic educational opportunities also benefited CTRA staff for a win-win relationship! Ladies Night Vaulting sessions also brought in some community members to experience the fun and excitement of Equestrian Vaulting.

2021 FINANCIALS

CTRA survives and thrives on the support of our community. We value every penny entrusted to us and work hard to ensure financial responsibility at all times.

Expenses	Budget	Actual
Facility	\$ 48,725	\$ 49,240
Horse Care & Upkeep	\$ 156,502	\$ 200,969
Programs	\$ 174,048	\$ 141,231
Administration	\$ 85,993	\$ 107,625
Fundraising	\$ 28,395	\$ 38,330
Capital/Amortization	\$ 31,600	\$ 30,866
Total Expenses	\$ 525,263	\$ 568,261

Revenue	Budget	Actual
Grants	\$ 169,108	\$ 248,519
Service Fees	\$ 92,650	\$ 81,439
Fundraising Events/Initiatives/Tack Sales	\$ 45,000	\$ 34,714
Donations	\$ 170,005	\$ 147,809
Other Revenue/In-Kind Donations	\$ 48,500	\$ 47,579
Amortization		\$ 8,641
Total Revenue	\$ 525,263	\$ 568,701

Revenue Over Expenses	0	\$ 440
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In-Kind Contributions (not captured in financials)

Volunteerism	\$ 63,076
Facility Subsidy	\$ 10,000
Total In-Kind Contributions	\$ 73,076

We especially wish to thank:

All who pledged participants and donated in support of our #KeepCTRStable campaign and other fundraisers throughout the year

All who contributed equipment, tack and other in-kind gifts in support of our program

All who donated to, and purchased from, the Jane James Used Tack Shop

Our hard-working CTRA staff members who are so dedicated to their jobs

Long time Volunteer and Friend Laura Ferreira

Dedicated Volunteer and Supporter Lynn James

The incredible horses who make our programs possible.

SUPPORTERS

From regular monthly donations to project-specific sponsorships that allow us to erect walls, CTRA relies on a generous community of donors and sponsors. Our supporters all believe in the power of equine-based wellness programs and know just how much our participants benefit from what we offer. We cannot thank everyone enough for helping us to be a catalyst for human potential.

Community Partners

Canadian Tire Jumpstart
Children's Health Foundation of
Vancouver Island
Dr Ann Worth Charitable Foundation
Laura Ferreira
Province of BC - Community Gaming
Sisters of St. Ann

Diamond Sponsors

The Abercrombie Foundation
BC Therapeutic Riding Association
James, Lynn
The Hamber Foundation

Platinum Sponsors

Dairy Queen - Duncan
Dous, Jochen
Greygates Foundation
Horse Council of BC
Island Return It - Duncan Depot
Ladysmith Health Care Auxiliary
Lions Club of Duncan
Lions Club of Malahat
McLean Foundation
Morris & Helen Belkin Foundation
Purica
River Valley Law
The Dosman Family
Williams, Fran

Gold Sponsors

Hull Family Fund
Rotary Club - Chemainus

Silver Sponsors

Cowichan District Riding Club
Duncan Elks Lodge #69
Fraternal Order of Eagles Ladysmith
Aerie 2101
Lions Club of Cedar
Provincial Employees Community
Services Fund
Royal Canadian Legion 171 Ladysmith
Royal Canadian Legion 210 Lake
Cowichan
Western Communities Foundation

Bronze Sponsors

Alexandra Hamilton Farrier Services
Cowichan Petroleum Sales Ltd.
Creative Woodcraft
Drillwell Enterprises Ltd

First West Foundation
Kate Rume Notary Corporation
Lake's Marine Supply
Lions Club of Nanaimo
Thrifty Foods Smile Card Program
Top Shelf Feeds

Gold Donors

Howells, Ruth & John
Killick, Jackie
Lindwall, Ann
Siewert, Garth
Sorfleet, Timothy
Taylor, Kimberly

Silver Donors

Barclay, Janet
Campbell, Candice
Dous, Diane
Eng, Robert & Marianne
Experience Cycling
Heath, Brent
Howery, Kathy
James, Lynn
Kunert, Adam
Mitchell, Violaine
R & K Woodlot Ltd
Ruel, Janet
Tipping, Percy
Unger, Donald & Patricia
Usborne, Michael
Whittome, Dorothy
Younger, Martha

Bronze Donors

4 Paws 4 Agility
Appleby, John & Judith
Barclay, Janet
Bone, Jennifer
Bonnar, Stephanie
Bryde, Kyla
Cameron, Lori
Carruthers, Julia & Chris
Coates, Kelly
Crane, Andrew
Cutler, Anne
David Coulson Design
Fugard, Melanie
Fuoco, Guiseppe
Garlick, Joan
Grahame, Kim
Granbois, LaVerne
Grimes, Richard

Guay, John
Gueret, Sharie
Hallam, Rob
Hankins, Vicki
Hayes, Marlene
Hutton, Jack
James, Elizabeth J.
Jamison, Diana
Johel, Colleen
Juergensen, Malte
Kana Bookkeeping
Koch, Coleen
Lake, Susan
Lewis, Juliette
Macovichuk, Lynda
Matthews, Joy & Glenn
McGivern, Annika
McKenzie, Rosemary
McMahon, Sylvia
Model, Pawli
Muir, Anne
Newington, Carol
Nilsen, Deborah
Noga, Bernice
Parhar, Parabjit
Park, Danielle
Phillips, Vicky
Reich, Denise
Roderick, Heather
Roy, Raymond
Sanford, Doug
Steen, Amanda (Amy)
Strachen, Doug
The Cover Guy
Van Elk, Kathleen
Walczak, Janet
Watson, Cheryl
Webster, Shelley
Wellwood, Delia
Wheeler, Alexandra
Willumsen, Erin
Wilson, Ernestine

&

The Many "Friends of CTRA"

