

# **YOUNBOU COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION (“YCA”)**

## **Notes to Financial Statements for the Year ended December 31, 2015**

The founding meeting was held November 2, 2014 and registration under the Society Act of BC took place January 16, 2015. The purpose of the Youbou Community Association is to

***“Provide a forum to advance the social, environmental, safety and economic interests of the community of Youbou and its residents”***

From the start, YCA members have outlined three main areas they want to focus on:

### **1. *Building our Community***

Ever since the sawmill shut down back in 2001, the Youbou area has been very depressed economically. The unfortunate thing is that this depression also seems to have crept into the community spirit. YCA is trying to improve social connections through event planning and creating cultural opportunities; exploring the conversion of the now defunct Yount School into a cultural centre by following the example of the Cobble Hill “Hub”; and last but not least the creation of a local News Letter.

Starting in March, YCA has been putting out a News Letter “The Community Connector” outlining local events, discussing issues concerning the community, highlighting some of the history of the area, asking for feed-back from the community and also trying to encouraging volunteer work.

During the year, volunteer members of YCA have organized several fund-raisers and participated in the following events:

- Youbou Regatta: This popular event that goes back to the 1940’s has taken place every August in Arbutus Park. Eight members took part in the local Parade. Four helped man the concession stand in Arbutus Park and two were in charge of the membership table.
- Haunted House: YCA member Kim Ring and her crew of volunteers put on a very creative “spooky” show and helped decorate the Youbou Hall for the Halloween Festivities.
- Christmas Craft Fair: (held November 28) Nine YCA volunteers operated shifts in the kitchen providing breakfast and lunch from 10:00 to 3:00 pm for the many visitors attending the fair.

### **2. *Well-Being and Safety***

To improve traffic safety, YCA members took a Speed Watch Training course organized by the local police. So far, we have one two member-team collecting data on speeding vehicles on Youbou Road, which will be forwarded to ICBC.

### **3. *Tidying-up Youbou***

An inventory of the public access areas to Cowichan Lake has been made and the areas inspected. They are overgrown mostly with non-indigenous blackberries but also, some have become dumping grounds and need to be cleaned up. Clean-up will have to take place in spring after consultation with MOT.

Another problem is the many abandoned vehicles throughout Youbou. This is an issue that cannot be easily solved because, so far, neither MOT nor the police have been willing to tackle this issue. YCA will not give up and keep pushing to find a solution.

And finally, the ongoing issue with logging trucks dragging silt into town that in winter turns to mud and in summer into dust has become a battle ground between the Youbou community and Timberwest, since the truck-wash that was install proved to be inadequate and did not solve the problem.

***In its first year of operation, the membership of the Youbou Community Association surpassed 100 which represents approx. 10% of the local population, currently estimated to be approx. 1150.***

***Total volunteer hours are estimated at 815 (and counting.....got numbers from Larry and Chris, Kim, Gord and Rose and Fran, Mike, Duncan. Still need: Ian and Adele, Richard , Cassy and Pat .....???)***