

2014

COAST OPPORTUNITY FUNDS

# Annual Report



COAST  
ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT  
SOCIETY AND  
COAST CONSERVATION  
ENDOWMENT FUND FOUNDATION

## VISION

Participating First Nations enjoy sustainable community prosperity while maintaining the integrity of the coastal ecosystems of the Central Coast, North Coast and Haida Gwaii areas of coastal British Columbia.

## MISSION

To assist Participating First Nations in achieving their goals for sustainable economic development and conservation management.

## WHAT WE DO

- 1. Mutually respectful relationship** We endeavour to provide the highest level of support to the Participating First Nations through a mutually respectful relationship.
- 2. Due Diligence** Coast Opportunity Funds makes responsible, objective and business-based decisions, partnering with Participating First Nations to develop successful applications and to fund sound, high quality projects.
- 3. Support for capacity strengthening** Coast Opportunity Funds supports Participating First Nations as they strengthen their capacity and develop relationships with other agencies, financial institutions and potential partners to leverage additional resources, increase the opportunities for success and maximize the impact of Coast Opportunity Funds' investments.
- 4. Responsible stewardship of funds** Integral to all Coast Opportunity Funds' work is the responsible administration and investment of the funds entrusted to it by private funders and the governments of British Columbia and Canada for the purposes set out in our governing documents.

## CORE VALUES

Coast Opportunity Funds adheres to the following core values to guide its operations:

- Integrity;
- Consistency;
- Collaboration and inclusiveness;
- Transparency and accountability; and
- Respect for First Nations' history, land use rights, and decision-making authority.

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## MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR



I am pleased to present our 2014 Annual Report on awards and project activities, operations and financial performance by Coast Opportunity Funds.

I am especially pleased to report that 2014 saw Coast Funds award \$6,451,580 in economic development (CEDS) funding and \$5,709,533 in conservation (CCEFF) funding—the highest combined volume of annual funding approved since our inception, and the highest amount ever approved for conservation funding. In 2014 we also approved the 100th CEDS project award, for high speed internet installation by Gitga'at First Nation in the village of Hartley Bay (and by the time you read this, I anticipate we will have awarded the 100th CCEFF project as well. We will tell you all about it the July issue of our newsletter, *The Talking Stick*).

This reflects the good progress that has been made over the last twelve months on a variety of fronts. We have built on our considerable organizational experience to develop streamlined application processes, a user-friendly outcome reporting system, and a shared evaluation framework for showcasing the outcomes that are emerging from completed projects. We have also supported the regional groups as they lead

capacity-strengthening work for the benefit of their member First Nations.

Looking forward, the Board of Coast Funds is in the process of considering how the organization can best address the ongoing needs and goals of the First Nations as the CEDS fund diminishes.

Our goal, as always, is to successfully fulfil the purpose of CEDS expeditiously, effectively and responsibly. Success, in these terms, is defined not merely by full uptake by the First Nations of the CEDS fund as quickly as possible, but by achieving real results: having sustainable projects in place generating stable revenues and employment, that contribute to building and maintaining resilient Participating First Nation community economies throughout the region.

At the same time, we must ensure that CCEFF continues to be operated sustainably and cost-effectively, and is positioned to meet the ongoing conservation requirements of the First Nations in a post-CEDS environment. Coast Funds will be seeking insights and input from the Participating First Nations, Regional Groups, Members and Funders on this issue before the Board makes decisions on how to move forward most effectively to meet Coast Funds' strategic goals and objectives.

This year we farewelled some staff and welcomed others. Scott Rehmus, former Director of Conservation Projects, and Ana Yu, Project Administrator, left Coast Funds in July and Mary Speer, Board Administrator, left us in September. We wish them all the very best for their future. We also welcomed Robin Poirier, Andrea Harrison and Gráinne Mathews to the team. You can read more about them on pages 31 and 32, as well as Meaghan Hume, who joined us in early 2015.

I would like to thank the hardworking Board members and staff of Coast Funds for their continuing contribution to the success of not only the organization, but the First Nations we serve.

Merv Child, Chair

Coast Conservation Endowment Fund Foundation  
Coast Economic Development Society  
April 2015

## ABOUT US: COAST OPPORTUNITY FUNDS



Coast Opportunity Funds is a unique organization born in 2007 out of mutual recognition by conservationists, First Nations governments, resource industries and governments alike that a sustainable economy for First Nations is vital to conservation efforts in the Central Coast, North Coast and Haida Gwaii areas of the Great Bear Rainforest of coastal British Columbia.

### WHY IS THIS SO IMPORTANT?

First Nations communities have cared for and depended on their traditional territories within this region for their cultural, social and economic wellbeing since time immemorial. The region also has compelling conservation values. The Great Bear Rainforest is a magnificent old growth forest ecosystem representing one-quarter of the world's remaining coastal temperate rainforest, and supporting wild Pacific salmon, grizzly bears, wolves and the white Kermode or "spirit" bear among many other species.

The key to a durable and healthy environment in the Great Bear Rainforest is the maintenance of the link between the environment, the First

## Weaving together the threads of **conservation** and **community wellbeing**

Nations of the Great Bear Rainforest, and supporting a sustainable economy and healthy communities. The way in which First Nations manage and control the environment and the economy of the region will determine not only their own future, but the future of the Great Bear Rainforest as a whole.

Coast Opportunity Funds was created to make the vital connection between sustainable development projects that embrace conservation values; the social, cultural and economic wellbeing of the First Nations communities; and long-term conservation of the region. Designed as a global model of what conservation must become—an inherent part of healthy economies, environments and cultures—our funds are dedicated to empowering the First Nations in the Central and North Coasts and Haida Gwaii in achieving healthy and vibrant economies and communities in tandem with the conservation of their homelands for the benefit of future generations.

### PARTICIPATING FIRST NATIONS

K'ómoks (Comox), Council of the Haida Nation (Haida Gwaii), Da'naxda'xw Awaetlala (Knight Inlet), Dzawada'enuxw (Kingcome Inlet), Gitanyow (Kitwanga River), Gitga'at (Hartley Bay), Gitxaala (Kitkatla), Gwa'sala-Nakwaxda'xw (Port Hardy), Gwawaenuk (Hopetown/Watson Island), Haisla (Kitamaat), Heiltsuk (Bella Bella), Xwémalhkwu (Bute Inlet), Kitasoo/Xaixais (Klemtu), Kitselas (Terrace), Kwiakah (Philips Arm/Frederick Arm), Kwikwasut'inuxw Haxwa'mis (Gilford Island), Lax Kw'alaams (Port Simpson), Mamalilikulla-Qwe'Qwa'Sot'Em (Village Island and Compton Island), Metlakatla (Prince Rupert), 'Namgis (Alert Bay and Cormorant Island), Nisga'a Nation (Nass Valley), Nuxalk (Bella Coola), Tlowitsis (Johnstone Strait), Ulkatcho (Anahim Lake), We Wai Kai (Cape Mudge), Wei Wai Kum (Campbell River) and Wui'kinuxv (Rivers Inlet).

## STRUCTURE OF THE FUNDS

Coast Opportunity Funds is comprised of two separate organizations, namely the Coast Economic Development Society (CEDS) and the Coast Conservation Endowment Fund Foundation (CCEFF). These organizations are managed by boards comprised of the same group of individuals with a broad range of relevant expertise and First Nations representation. This was by design to ensure critical partnering and strategic leveraging of conservation management with economic development initiatives, to be implemented through the leadership of First Nation communities.

CEDS is a not-for-profit corporation responsible for managing two time-limited funds, a \$2.0 million regional economic development planning fund and a \$58.0 million economic development fund, supporting First Nation communities and businesses. The capital in this fund is being invested in job creation and business

development initiatives, targeting economic sectors identified as having good potential for sustainable development in the region.

CCEFF is a registered Canadian charity responsible for managing a \$2.0 million regional conservation planning fund and a permanent endowment fund of approximately \$56.0 million. The income generated from this fund provides ongoing funding to First Nations to support conservation science, resource planning, capacity development and related conservation management activities. Specific dollar amounts are allocated annually to each participating First Nation for eligible projects on the basis of each First Nation's original funding allocation and the performance of the fund.

While CEDS and CCEFF each have some unique goals as regards their respective mandates, their vision, mission and work are integrally linked. In general therefore the work of CEDS and CCEFF is undertaken jointly under the banner of Coast Opportunity Funds, or less formally, Coast Funds.

COMPTON ISLAND, BC.

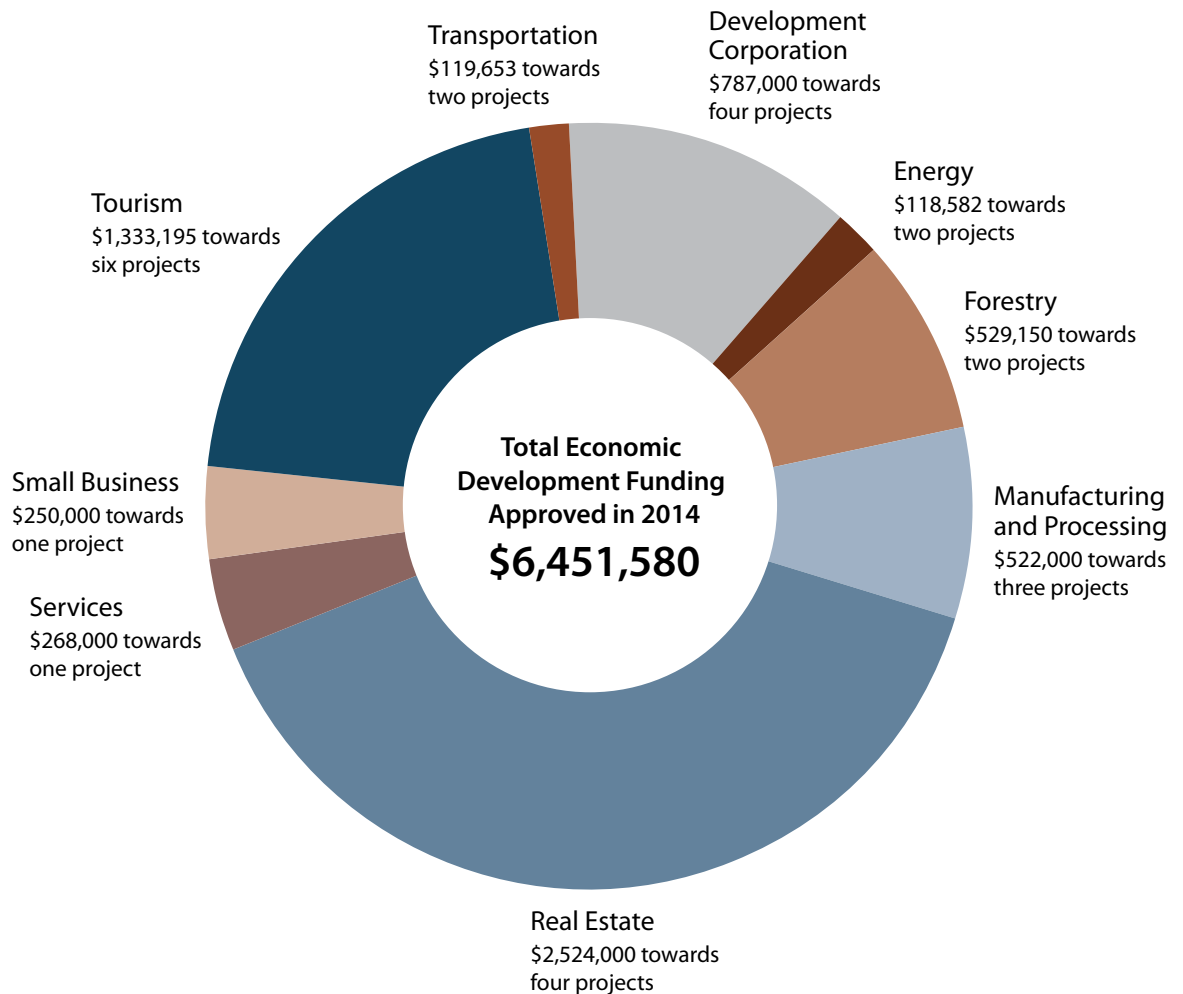


# 2014 CEDS AWARDS

CEDS awards approved in 2014 amounted to **\$6,451,580**. CEDS anticipates leveraging \$4.24 dollars for every dollar approved, with CEDS 2014 awards contributing to economic development projects with an aggregate project budget of **\$33,790,509**.

Highlights of the outcomes that Participating First Nations anticipate achieving from 2014 approved economic development projects include:

- Creation of **seven** new Participating First Nations owned and operated businesses
- Creation of **176** full time, part time and seasonal positions (**102** full-time equivalents), including **136** new jobs employing First Nations individuals
- Expansion of **eight** existing Participating First Nations owned and operated businesses
- Support for operations of organizations that directly employ **337** existing full-time equivalent positions, including **299** existing jobs employing First Nations in the region.



## 2014 CEDS PROJECTS



GITGAAT VILLAGE OF HARTLEY BAY.

### COUNCIL OF THE HAIDA NATION

- **Biomass and Wind Energy Technology Selection: \$30,000 award**

To select two renewable energy technologies under an agreement with BC Hydro for the planned displacement of diesel-fueled power generation on the northern electrical grid of Haida Gwaii

### GITGA'AT FIRST NATION

- **Hartley Bay High Speed Broadband: \$268,000 award**

To invest in high speed broadband internet connectivity throughout the community of Hartley Bay to enable businesses to market and sell goods and services online and via point of sale systems

### GITMAXMAK'AY NISGA'A PR/PE SOCIETY

- **Wilp-Sihoon Commercial Smokehouse Start-up: \$177,000 award**

To expand operations in Prince Rupert by constructing and operating a commercial smokehouse facility for sustainably harvested Nisga'a seafood products

### GWA'SALA-'NAKWAXDA'XW FIRST NATION

- **Commercial Cold Storage Warehouse Start-up: \$300,000 award**

To invest in the start-up of a new cold storage warehouse facility in Port Hardy in partnership with a commercial seafood processor

- **'kawat'si Economic Development Corp., Operations 2014/15: \$193,250 award**

To continue the start-up of operations for 'kawat'si Economic Development Corporation through 2015-16

- **Start-up of Development Corporation: \$218,750 award**

To commence operations of 'kawat'si Economic Development Corporation, staff the organization, and develop operating business plans for the corporation and its subsidiaries

### HAIsla NATION COUNCIL

- **Land Acquisition in Downtown Kitimat: \$419,000 award**

To acquire property in the centre of Kitimat that is strategically located for future development from the Province of British Columbia

- **Development of Haisla Town Centre: \$1,200,000 award**

To undertake and complete the rezoning and subdivision process in order to secure necessary permits for development of the first condominium at the new Haisla Town Centre in Kitimat



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR DAVID MANNIX PRESENTS CHEQUE TO HAIsla NATION COUNCIL COUNCILLOR TAYLOR CROSS.

- **Acquisition of Commercial Office Space in Kitamaat: \$495,000 award**  
To acquire a commercial office building in Kitamaat Village and invest in significant capital improvements
- **Acquisition of MK Bay Marina: \$975,000 award**  
To finalize a joint venture partnership and acquire MK Bay Marina from the Regional District of Kitimat-Stikine

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### HEILTSUK ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

- **Business Planning for Operating Subsidiaries: \$125,000 award**  
To support core operations as management develops business plans for each subsidiary company and the Board develops a new five year Strategic Plan
- **Operations FY2014/2015: \$250,000 award**  
To support core operations as HEDC and Heiltsuk Tribal Council implement legal and structural changes to the Nation's governance of its economic development organizations
- **Heiltsuk Conifer Oils Company Start-up: \$45,000 award**  
To establish a new conifer essential oils business in Bella Bella in partnership with two local entrepreneurs

- **Expansion of Waglisla Freight: \$65,000 award**  
To invest in capital upgrades, productivity enhancing equipment, and provide working capital for an expansion of Waglisla Freight Agency LP

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### HOMALCO INDIAN BAND

- **Strategic Plan for Bute Inlet Hydro Energy: \$88,582 award**  
To develop a strategic plan for renewable energy development within the Nation's traditional territory surrounding Bute Inlet

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### KITASOO BAND COUNCIL

- **Protecting and Registering the Spirit Bear Trademark: \$45,000 award**  
To assert the Kitasoo/Xaixais Nations as the sole holders of the Spirit Bear brand and to register the Spirit Bear trademark in Canada

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### KWIKWASUT'INUXW HAXWA'MIS FIRST NATION

- **Gwa'yas'dums Water Taxi Start-up: \$54,653 award**  
To finalize purchase of a marine transportation vessel to commence operations for a water taxi and tour business to Gwa'yas'dums on Gilford Island



NEW GILFORD ISLAND WATER TAXI.



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## MAMALILIKULLA-QWE'QWA'SOT'EM FIRST NATION

- **Ecotourism Vessel Upgrade: \$61,500 award**

To invest in a critical marine transportation upgrade that will improve clients' experience and the overall safety and reliability of Adventures Village Island operations

- **Adventures Village Island, Season 2 (Commercialization): \$175,500 award**

To enhance visitor accommodations, purchase equipment for cultural and eco-tours, and to enhance sales and marketing efforts for the business based on Compton and Village Island

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## NISGA'A LISIMS GOVERNMENT

- **Predevelopment for Vetter Falls Lodge: \$38,335 award**

To complete an environmental assessment for a proposed transmission line connecting Vetter Falls Lodge to the provincial power grid in Gitlaxt'aamiks

- **Nisga'a Cultural Journey Marketing Initiative: \$37,860 award**

To invest in the development of a cultural journey tourism marketing and infrastructure project that will provide visitors to the Nass Valley with cultural, social, and geographic interpretation of the Nisga'a Nation and its territories

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## NISGA'A VILLAGE OF GITWINKSIHLKW

- **Welcome House Construction and Start-Up: \$250,000 award**

To construct a Welcome House Café and to enter into a multi-year lease agreement with a Nisga'a entrepreneur, Nyce Creations and Gifts, to operate the new restaurant and retail business

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## NUXALK NATION

- **Acquisition of the Bella Coola Motel: \$410,000 award**

To acquire the Bella Coola Motel, located in downtown Bella Coola and adjacent to the Nuxalk reserve

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## ULKATCHO FIRST NATION

- **Equity Financing for West Chilcotin Forest Products: \$500,000 award**

To invest in capital equipment and to secure sufficient dry log timber supply that will maintain full production year-round of the West Chilcotin Forest Products sawmill in Anahim Lake

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## WUI'KINUXV NATION

- **Timber Supply Analysis and Strategic Planning: \$29,150 award**

To undertake a timber supply analysis of its Territory and the Wui'kinuxv Forestry Area, enabling the Nation to develop and adopt a strategic plan for forestry economic development

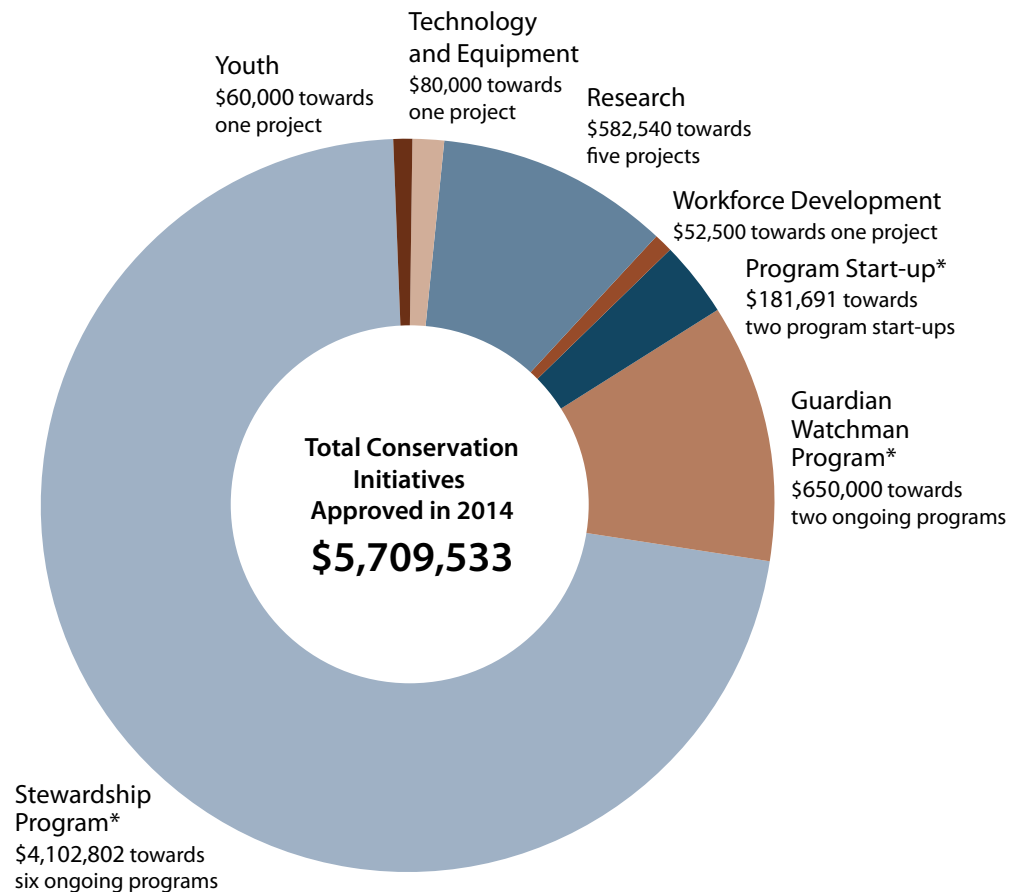


ADVENTURE  
VILLAGE ISLAND  
ACCOMMODATION  
UPGRADES.

## 2014 CCEFF AWARDS

CCEFF awards approved in 2014 amounted to **\$5,709,533**, contributing to conservation projects and programs with an aggregate budget of **\$8,732,698** across the Great Bear Rainforest Project Area.

This funding supported **twelve** unique programs and **five** specific project-based initiatives. In 2014, Participating First Nations leveraged approved CCEFF funding to start up **five** new conservation initiatives and support the delivery of **eleven** separate continuing conservation programs or project-based initiatives.



\*Program-based awards include a range of conservation initiatives including monitoring, research, land and marine use planning, and more.

## 2014 CCEFF PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS



### COUNCIL OF THE HAIDA NATION

- **Heritage and Natural Resources Dept.–2014/15 Operations: \$912,960 award**  
To expand the department, develop a cultural feature certification course, and to support joint land and resource decision making with the provincial government under the Kunst'aa guu - Kunst'aayah Reconciliation Protocol
- **Haida Gwaii Youth Stewardship Program and Culture Camps 2014: \$60,000 award**  
To provide Haida youth with cultural, stewardship, and leadership experience via the T'aalan Stl'ang and L'aana Daganga a culture camps and a summer internship program that builds the Nation's human resource capacity for long-term stewardship management
- **Haida Mapping Dept.–2014/15 Operations: \$653,419 award**  
To complete cultural surveys for the Nang Xaldangaas Heritage Site/Conservancy, to hire and train two GIS technicians, and to provide technical support for land and marine use planning efforts

### GITGA'AT FIRST NATION

- **Guardian Program–2014/15 Operations: \$400,000 award**  
To support operations of the Guardian Program, produce a final Gitga'at Marine Use Plan, develop management plans for three conservancies, engage in environmental assessments, and conduct regular patrols of the territory including a station in Caamano Sound

### GWA'SALA-'NAKWAXDA'XW FIRST NATION

- **Stewardship Program 2014 Operations: \$250,000 award**  
To support operations of the field program, continue the junior guardian program, create an adaptive approach to managing conservancies and protected areas, and partner with universities on stewardship training and a bear identification pilot program

### HAISLA NATION COUNCIL

- **Lands and Resource Dept.–2014/15 Operations: \$490,500 award**  
To support operations of the department, complete the Haisla Marine Use Plan, Douglas Channel monitoring including fish escapement data collection, and participation in industrial development consultation processes

### HEILTSUK TRIBAL COUNCIL

- **Heiltsuk Integrated Resource Management Dept.–2014/15 Operations: \$1,220,000 award**  
To support operations of the department, contribute to ecosystem-based management review, develop forestry and herring management plans, and continue to respond to resource development referrals



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## HOMALCO INDIAN BAND

- **Youth Stewardship Training–2014:**  
\$52,500 award

To deliver an eco-system management and wildlife protection training program for youth that includes traditional territory stewardship, essential fisheries field skills certification, first aid certification, and bear aware training

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## KITASOO BAND COUNCIL

- **Resource Stewardship Program–2014/15 Operations:** \$530,000 award

To support operations of the program, field-based research projects, land use and conservancy management planning, and the Supporting Emerging Aboriginal Stewards (SEAS) program

- **Cultural Resource Management and Research-Related Equipment:** \$100,000 award

To expand the scope of the program in 2014/15 to develop a plan for management of cultural resources, create a cultural data catalogue, and to invest in research and monitoring related equipment

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## K'OMOKS FIRST NATION

- **Guardian Watchman Program Start-up–2014 Pilot:** \$72,650 award

To initiate and pilot a Guardian Watchman Program throughout its territories over a multi-year period and to design and deliver a training curriculum for three members of the Nation to become Guardian Watchmen

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## KWIAKAH INDIAN BAND

- **Phillips Arm Estuary and Watershed Research:** \$25,000 award

To evaluate the abundance and habitat requirements of priority aquatic species, assess impacts of industrial activities, and recommend management practices to sustain priority species' populations in the Phillips Arm estuary and watershed

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## LAX KW'ALAAMS INDIAN BAND

- **Fisheries Stewardship Program–Research Vessel Upgrade:** \$80,000 award

To improve the field research capacity of the program by upgrading critical research and transportation equipment

- **Fisheries Stewardship Program–2014/15 Operations:** \$270,000 award

To support operations, continue juvenile salmonid habitat monitoring in the Skeena estuary and Chatham Sound, continue the salmonid harvest monitoring program, and engage in environmental assessment reviews

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## MAMALILIKULLA-QWE'QWA'SOT'EM FIRST NATION

- **Guardian Watchman Program Start-up:** \$109,041 award

To initiate and operate a seven-month Guardian Watchman Program throughout its territories, leveraging ecotourism infrastructure developed on Compton Island

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## METLAKATLA FIRST NATION

- **Cumulative Effects Assessment and Management–Phase 1:** \$111,500 award

To identify priority values, associated indicators, benchmarks and management targets to monitor Metlakatla's values in the context of current and proposed development throughout the Nation's territory

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## NISGA'A LISIMS GOVERNMENT

- **Marine Surveys for Nass River Salmonid Stocks:** \$76,040 award

To pilot a research program to improve knowledge of juvenile salmon ecology in the Nass River system, focusing on juvenile salmonids in the nearshore marine area

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## NUXALK NATION

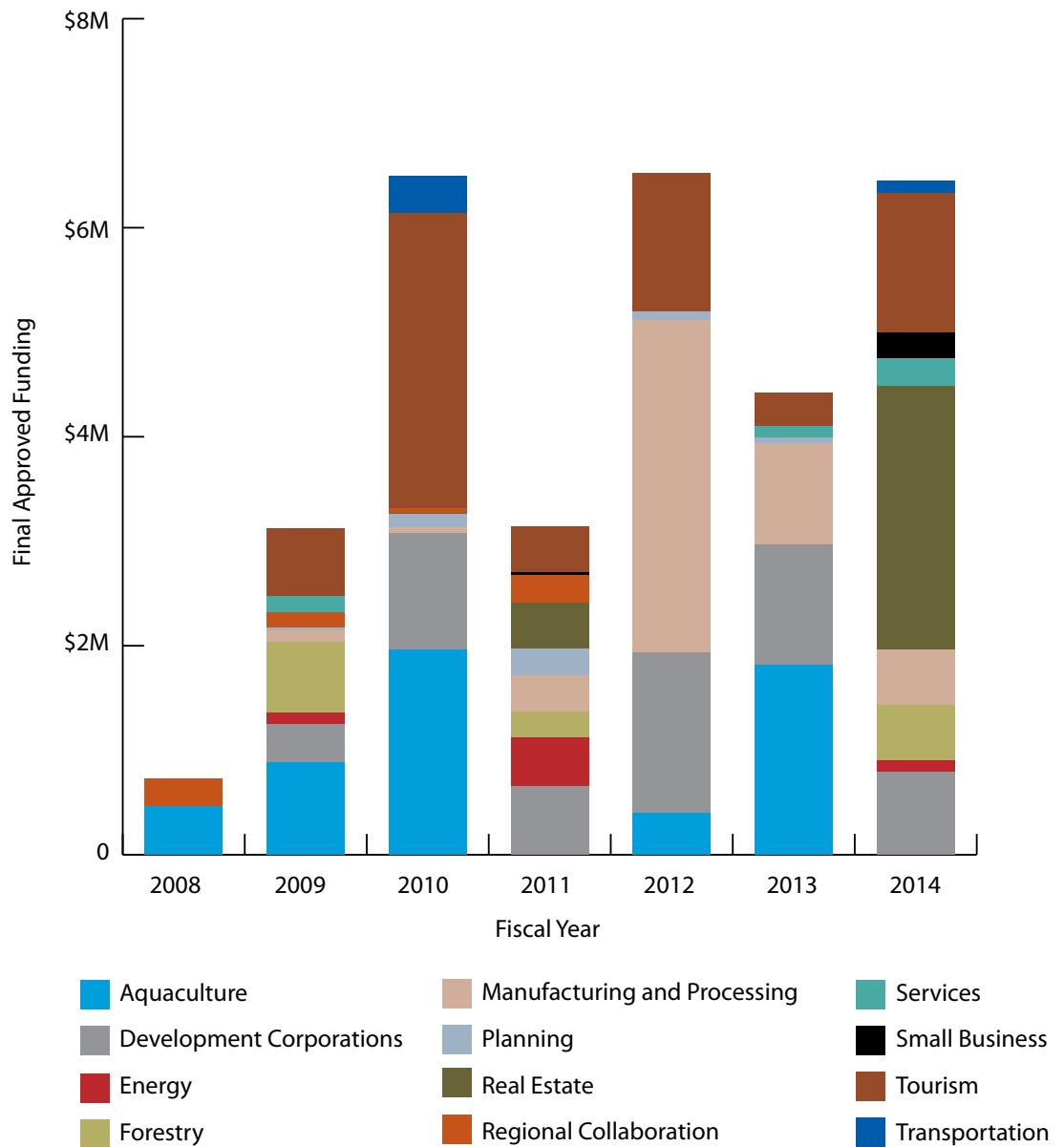
- **Nuxalk Stewardship Office–2014 Operations:** \$295,923 award

To support stewardship, research and monitoring, and resource development referrals while also initiating a number of conservation-related projects

# AWARDS FROM OCTOBER 2008 TO DECEMBER 2014 BY SECTOR

## CEDS

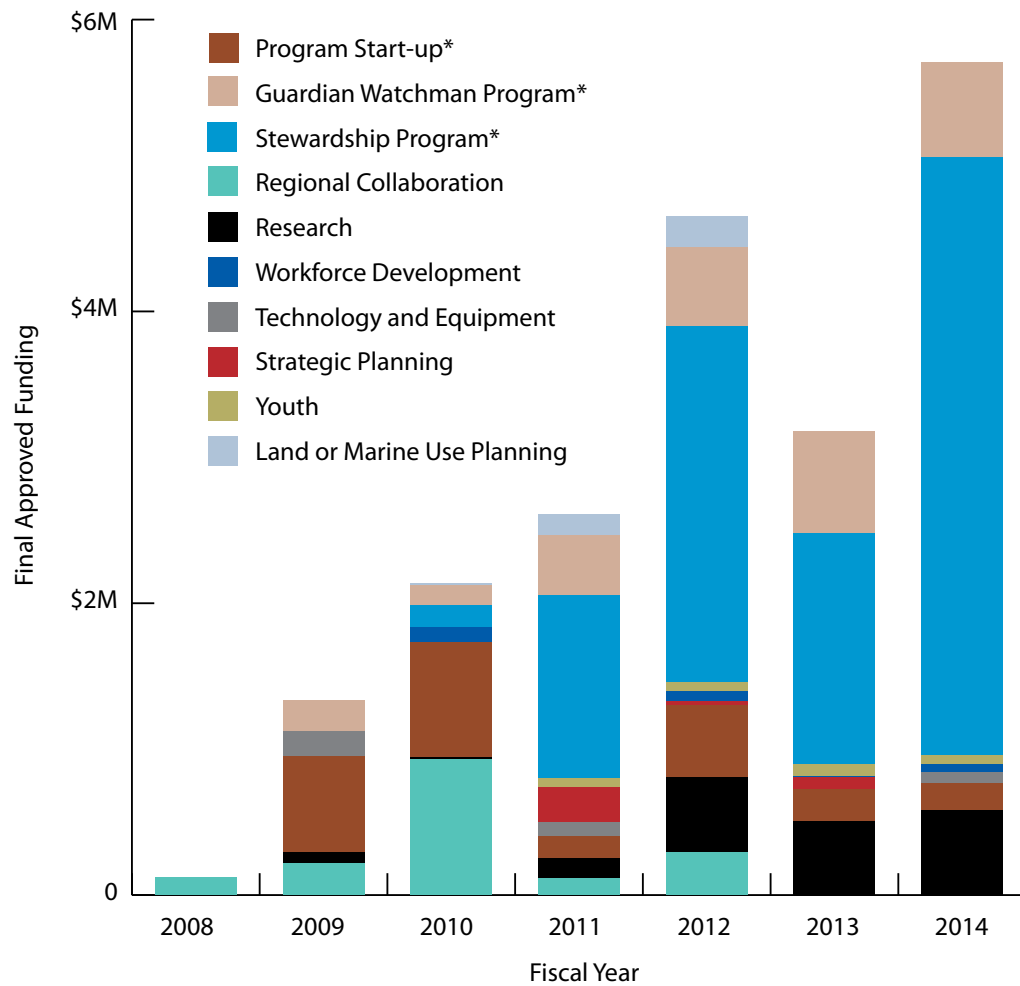
Since 2008, CEDS has approved **\$30,879,635** in funding contributing to **114** economic development projects with a total budget of **\$123,452,560**.



# AWARDS FROM OCTOBER 2008 TO DECEMBER 2014 BY SECTOR

## CCEFF

Since 2008, CCEFF has approved **\$19,740,951** in funding contributing to **97** conservation projects with an aggregate budget of **\$37,315,891**.



\*Program-based awards include a range of conservation initiatives including monitoring, research, land and marine use planning, and more.

## 2014 STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS AND OUTCOMES

GOAL: TO FOSTER RESILIENT PARTICIPATING FIRST NATION  
COMMUNITY ECONOMIES THROUGHOUT THE REGION



### A. Enhanced First Nation resources and effectiveness in sustainable economic development activities

Management regularly consulted with Participating First Nations throughout 2014 on economic development strategies, business planning, and future project plans. This resulted in Participating First Nations having identified in excess of \$10 million in future economic development projects that are eligible for CEDS funding.

The application and reporting processes for the CEDS fund were improved early in 2014 to provide Participating First Nations with streamlined access to the fund and administration of approved projects. Positive feedback on the new processes was received from a number of Participating First Nations.

CEDS collaborated with the SFU Beedie School of Business–Aboriginal Executive MBA Program to develop case studies with the Haida and Heiltsuk Nations. These case studies are designed to inform the Nations directly on future economic development initiatives, but also to be shared between Nations to inform others on best practices. The Board established a new Client Services Liaison staff position in 2014 to spearhead more of this work with all Participating First Nations.

CEDS continued to connect Participating First Nations with strategic resources including universities, funders, consulting firms, private sector companies, and other First Nation organizations throughout 2014. These connections informed approved projects during the year and set the stage for new funding applications in future years.

### B. Increased numbers of sustainable and diverse First Nation-owned and/or operated businesses and individual entrepreneurs creating jobs in communities in the region

CEDS worked with all Participating First Nations throughout 2014 to increase the number of new economic development projects in the region, resulting in \$6,451,580 in approved funding and identifying over \$10 million in future eligible projects that are in various forms of development.

In 2014, CEDS approved funding to Kwikwasut'inuxw Haxwa'mis First Nation and the Nisga'a Village of Gitwinksihlkw. In both cases this was the first time either organization had submitted

an application and received funding from CEDS since its inception. Both projects were a result of significant multi-year planning and community consultation.

Also in 2014, CEDS approved a significant amount of funding to support the Haisla Nation in acquiring a number of strategic assets in the Kitimat region. Following decades of planning, Haisla moved forward with the acquisition of MK Bay Marina, the only marina available for moorage in the Harbour at Kitimat in the Douglas Channel. Additionally, the Haisla Nation secured ownership of a strategic property in downtown Kitimat from the Province of British Columbia and proceeded with development planning for the Haisla Town Centre, a large residential and commercial complex.

Management worked closely with Participating First Nations to draw additional investment to the Great Bear Rainforest project area by leveraging CEDS project awards with partnered funding. A total of \$27,338,929 in additional funding was leveraged against approved CEDS project funding. This additional funding is comprised of cash contributions by the Participating First Nations, bank financing, private investment, government, other foundations, and own source revenue.

### C. Expanded infrastructure supporting economic development in the region

Management worked closely with the Gitga'at, Haisla, Nuxalk, and Nisga'a Nations in 2014 and provided resources and expertise to develop and approve infrastructure funding applications that directly support the creation of new, and the expansion of existing, First Nations Businesses in the region.

In addition to those infrastructure-specific projects, Participating First Nations continue to invest significantly in infrastructure and equipment as a key component of many business development projects that were approved in 2014.

## GOAL: TO FOSTER PARTICIPATING FIRST NATIONS' LEADERSHIP IN CONSERVATION ACTIVITIES AND MANAGEMENT OF PROTECTED AREAS IN THE REGION



### A. Enhanced First Nation resources, activities and effectiveness in resource stewardship and management of protected areas, habitats, and ecosystems

Management regularly consulted with Participating First Nations throughout 2014 on conservation management plans, the operation of guardian watchmen and integrated stewardship programs, and future research or habitat restoration project plans.

Based on CCEFF's 2013 earnings, Participating First Nations were provided with their largest annual allocation in 2014 since inception of the fund. This enabled the Board to award its highest level of funding in a given year for conservation programs and projects, far exceeding its strategic goal for 2014. \$5,709,533 in funding was approved, contributing to a total conservation project and program budget of \$8,732,698 across the Great Bear Rainforest Project Area.



Approved funding in 2014 supported twelve different conservation programs and five specific project-based conservation initiatives. In 2014, Participating First Nations leveraged approved CCEFF funding to start up five new conservation initiatives and supported the ongoing delivery of eleven separate conservation programs (including guardian watchmen and integrated resource and environmental stewardship offices).

Throughout 2014, management consulted with the Participating First Nations, CCEFF's original funders, and partner organizations to improve the application and reporting processes for the fund. The Board was specifically focused on improving access to the funds for Participating First Nations while also shifting towards a results-based approach that supports Participating First Nations to report on conservation-based outcomes of their projects and programs.

This consultation resulted in the creation of a streamlined annual funding process for Participating First Nations seeking funds to support ongoing guardian watchmen or stewardship offices. It also resulted in a streamlined project-based application process for Participating First Nations seeking funds for habitat restoration, scientific research, or conservation-related equipment and infrastructure. While this work was completed in 2014, the new streamlined processes were scheduled to officially launch in early 2015.

The Board initially planned to conduct an evaluation of past CCEFF awards since inception in 2014. This work was deferred to 2015 to ensure historical data collection would be informed by consultation during 2014 with Participating First Nations and original funders regarding the new CCEFF application and reporting processes.

By informing the evaluation approach through this consultation, CCEFF will be positioned to seamlessly align data collection with the new annual and project-based application and reporting processes scheduled for official launch in early 2015.

#### **B. Increased collaboration between First Nations at a regional level in conservation management, leadership and protection of habitat and ecosystems**

Management and staff continued to support on-going development of the Coastal Stewardship Network coordinated by Coastal First Nations (Great Bear Initiative Society). CCEFF also supported an emerging dialogue between member Nations of Nanwakolas Council Society to establish regional monitoring and stewardship programs throughout their traditional territories. In 2014, Nanwakolas Council Society published a strategic framework for its regional guardian watchman program with its member Nations.

Support of this regional collaboration resulted in the pilot of a guardian watchman program by the K'omoks Nation that was funded in 2014 (\$72,650) as well as the launch of a new guardian watchman program by the Mamalilikulla-Qwe'Qwa'Sot'Em Nations (\$109,041) that leverages ecotourism infrastructure previously funded by CEDS on Compton and Village Islands.



GOAL: TO INCREASE THE CAPACITY OF FIRST NATION COMMUNITIES TO REALIZE SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES AND LEAD CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT, PROJECT DEVELOPMENT AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT.



#### A. Establishment of a regional capacity strengthening framework involving regional First Nations groups and Participating First Nations

In 2014, management engaged with each regional organization of Coast Funds to gain input and agreement on regional approaches to capacity strengthening work throughout the Great Bear Rainforest project area. The regional organizations are: Coastal First Nations (Great Bear Initiative Society), N̓anw̓aḱolas Council Society, Council of the Haida Nation and North Coast Skeena First Nations Stewardship Society.

Funding was allocated within the 2014 operating budgets for both CEDS and CCEFF to support these organizations' regional capacity efforts. N̓anw̓aḱolas Council Society leveraged this funding to convene a forum in July 2014 entitled "The New Relationship . . . A look back and a look forward" that brought together dozens of Vancouver Island First Nations leaders, local government representatives, industry CEOs, environmental organizations, representatives of senior levels of government including Ministers, Deputies and MLAs, and members of the community.

Topics of discussion included the need for greater skills training and capacity building for First Nations communities, creation of more jobs for the region that establish more certainty to industry, and long term investment in operations and support of the ongoing operation of mills on Vancouver island.

N̓anw̓aḱolas Council Society then developed a three-year regional capacity building plan with its member First Nations, the "N̓anw̓aḱolas Community Wellbeing and Capacity Strengthening Plan." Funding for the implementation of this plan was approved in November 2014.

Work that occurred under this funding focused on workforce development, communication skills enhancement and community information systems management. These areas are viewed as critical elements that contribute significantly to member First Nations' ability to attain their long-term community wellbeing goals and objectives. The approved funding also supported the creation of a Regional Capacity Building Coordinator position within N̓anw̓aḱolas to coordinate implementation of the work plan.

In 2014, Coastal First Nations and North Coast Skeena First Nations Stewardship Society discussed approaches to regional capacity building at both a management and Board level. Coast Funds management worked closely with both organizations to identify areas that funding could specifically enhance regional collaboration amongst their member Nations. This work is anticipated to support the launch of two new regional capacity building initiatives in 2015.

## **B. Increased numbers of resilient First Nations economic development corporations and integrated resource management offices with well-established good governance policies and practices**

This strategic objective is most directly supported through the project due diligence and funding provided to Participating First Nations from CEDS and CCEFF in 2014. Please refer to the 2014 Awards summaries provided (pages 6-14).

In addition to directly funding the creation of resilient development corporations and integrated resource management offices, Coast Funds created the staff position of Client Services Liaison to support Participating First Nations and regional organizations efforts. A long-term knowledge resource will be created, informing Participating First Nations on strategies for various economic development or conservation initiatives. This work will specifically include good governance policies and practices, implementation strategies, and lessons learned from past and current projects.

## **C. Strengthened entrepreneurial culture within First Nations communities**

CEDS directly supported the creation of entrepreneurial ventures through approved funding in 2014. A few key examples of strengthening the entrepreneurial culture within the Great Bear Rainforest project area include:

- The development of a public-private partnership between the Village of Gitwinksihlkw government and a Nisga'a entrepreneur to establish a new business in the Nass Valley.
- Support for the acquisition by Haisla Nation of MK Bay Marina, in which Haisla will be investing with a joint venture partner.
- Funding for Heiltsuk Economic Development Corporation to work with entrepreneurs in Bella Bella to develop a conifer essential oils start-up.
- Funding for Gitmaxmak'ay Nisga'a Society to expand its social enterprise into value-added processing of Nisga'a seafood products in Prince Rupert.

In addition to project-based funding, Coast Funds approved capacity building funding for the three-year regional capacity plan led by Nanwakolas Council Society that includes entrepreneurship training and mentoring as a key component.

In November 2014, CEDS partnered with Futurpreneur Canada to refer eligible entrepreneurs. Futurpreneur Canada has an internationally recognized mentoring program that hand matches entrepreneurs (aged 18–39) with a business expert from a network of more than 2,800 volunteer mentors. Through this new partnership, Coast Funds staff can leverage Futurpreneur's funding and mentorship to engage with and support local entrepreneurs throughout the Great Bear Rainforest project area.

As economic development projects are conceived, or as Participating First Nations refer eligible entrepreneurs, CEDS can provide funding while also referring entrepreneurs to the new Futurpreneur office in Prince Rupert. It is hoped that this partnership will result in more entrepreneurial ventures in the region as well as an increase in the number of eligible funding applications to CEDS from entrepreneurs.

GOAL: TO TRANSITION TO A POST-2017 STRUCTURE AND PROCESS THAT RESPECTS THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE ORGANIZATION'S GOVERNING AGREEMENTS WHILE SUPPORTING PARTICIPATING FIRST NATIONS' NEEDS.



The Board of Coast Funds annually reviews the status of the CEDS fund. In fall 2014 the Board focussed its planning discussions on what needs to be done as the CEDS fund diminishes, and how Coast Funds can best address the ongoing needs and goals of the First Nations as Coast Funds transitions to a post-CEDS structure in due course.

The goal is to successfully fulfil the purpose of CEDS expeditiously, effectively and responsibly. Success, in these terms, is defined not merely by full uptake by the First Nations of the CEDS fund as quickly as possible, but by achieving real results: having sustainable projects in place generating stable revenues and employment, that contribute to building and maintaining resilient Participating First Nation community economies throughout the region.

The Board of Coast Funds must also be mindful that, as the CEDS fund diminishes and it enters the "sunset" phase of its term, the Board ensures that CCEFF continues to be operated sustainably and cost-effectively, and is positioned to meet the ongoing conservation requirements of the First Nations in a post-CEDS environment.

Coast Funds will be seeking insights and input from the Participating First Nations, Regional Groups, Members and Funders on this issue before the Board makes decisions on how to move forward most effectively to meet Coast Funds' strategic goals and objectives.



## GOVERNANCE, FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

**A**s always, Coast Funds strives to adhere to best practices in good governance and ensure its operations are efficient and cost effective. In 2014 the following governance, financial and administrative goals were met:

### ADDRESS CORE STRATEGIC ISSUES TO FACILITATE LONG TERM PLANNING

- Reorganization was implemented with the goal of ensuring that CEDS and CCEFF will continue to achieve organizational effectiveness over the longer term and as the CEDS fund diminishes.
- The Board held a dedicated strategic planning workshop to consider organizational goals and strategies and how the organization can best address the ongoing needs and goals of the Participating First Nations.

### PROACTIVE MANAGEMENT OF REGULATORY ISSUES

- CCEFF US tax charity status was rescinded. This was forecast to Funders and First Nations in 2013.
- CEDS and CCEFF complied with all requirements of the newly-applicable Internal Revenue Services (IRS) Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act (FATCA).

### PROACTIVE FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

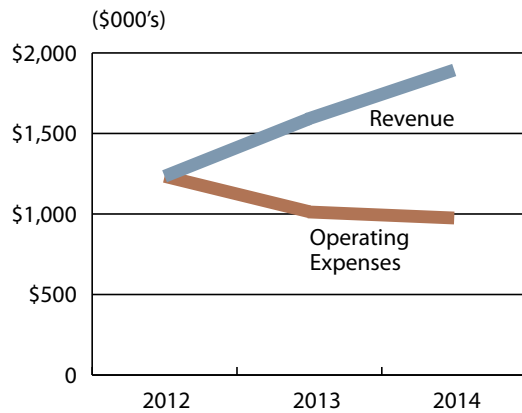
- CEDS pro forma financial statements were developed modelling future CIIA-compliant financial and operational scenarios that are intended to support Participating First Nation's needs as the CEDS fund diminishes in due course.
- CEDS and CCEFF complied with all statutory, regulatory, internal funding agreement, policy and bylaw requirements.



# 2014 FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

## COAST ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SOCIETY RESULTS FROM OPERATIONS

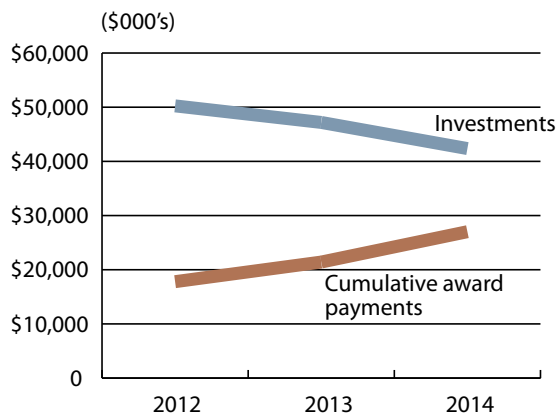
In 2014, the excess of revenue over operating expenses was \$0.9 million, an increase from \$0.6 million in the prior year. This additional \$0.3 million in excess revenue was achieved as investment income increased in 2014 due to strong performance from a new mortgage portfolio. Operating expenses remained relatively stable from year to year.



The slight decrease in operating expenses in 2014 was attributable to increased recovery of costs from CCEFF due to reorganization in 2014 and a decrease in professional fees. This was offset by increased capacity costs.

## COAST ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SOCIETY INVESTMENTS AND INVESTMENT INCOME

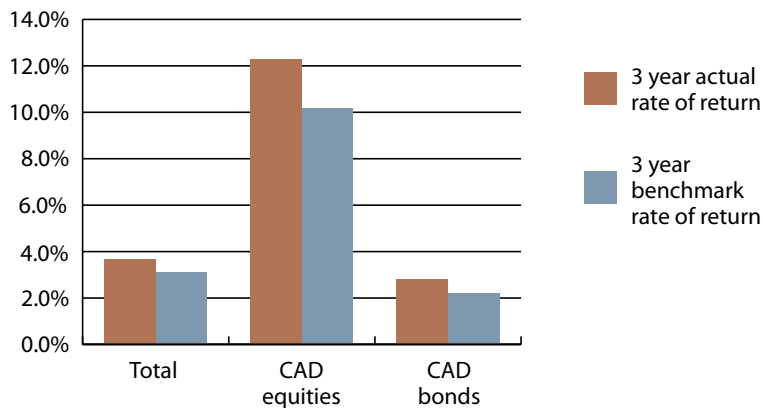
Investment income is dependent on both the amount of capital invested and the rate of return earned on investments. CEDS' investments will decrease over its lifespan as awards are disbursed.



Over the past three years, earnings from equities have been relatively volatile. In 2014, earnings from fixed income investments increased due to downward pressure on interest rates. The investments are divided by 67% fixed income and 33% equities, so the weighted average rate of return closely aligns with the returns earned on the fixed income investments.

In 2014 the overall rate of return was 4.6%, which is an increase over the 2013 return of 3.6%. The annualized rate of return for the last three years was 3.7%, in excess of the benchmark return of 3.1% per year.

CEDS and CCEFF monitor the performance of their investment managers by comparing actual rates of return to benchmarks based on market returns.



In January 2014, one of the bond portfolios was liquidated and the proceeds were transferred to a mortgage fund manager which resulted in a reclassification of 13% of the portfolio from fixed income to equities. During the year, one of CEDS' other fixed income managers was replaced due to issues with compliance and performance. The transfer of assets was completed in September. These changes are expected to improve the overall yield of the portfolio. The Board of Directors, with support from the Investment, Finance and Audit Committee and an investment consultant, will continue to monitor the performance of the investment managers.

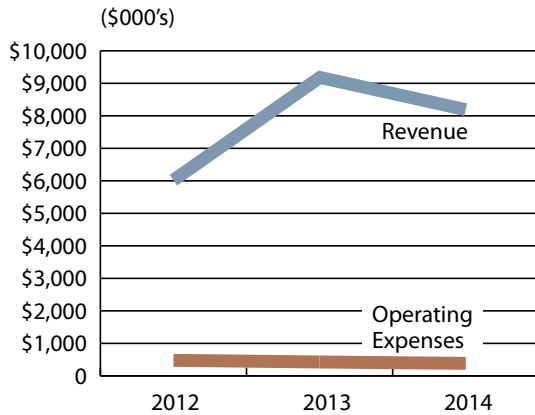
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**CEDS Yearly Fund Balances**

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Opening Fund Balance	0	61,054	61,669	63,245	60,222	55,967	50,456	47,102
Contributions	60,050	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Net Investment Income	1,070	1,885	4,536	2,879	1,441	1,328	1,592	1,894
Operating Expenses	66	471	828	927	968	1,235	1,014	975
Awards Expense	0	799	2,132	4,975	4,728	5,605	3,932	6,362
Closing Fund Balance	61,054	61,669	63,245	60,222	55,967	50,456	47,102	41,659

## COAST CONSERVATION ENDOWMENT FUND FOUNDATION RESULTS FROM OPERATIONS

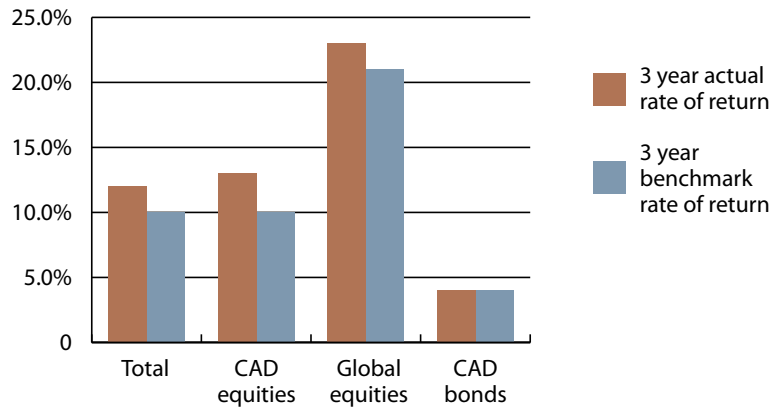
In 2014, the excess of revenue over operating expenses was \$7.8 million, a decrease of \$1.0 million from the prior year's \$8.8 million. While investment income has been volatile over the last three years, operating expenses remain relatively stable from year to year.



## COAST CONSERVATION ENDOWMENT FUND FOUNDATION INVESTMENT INCOME

Over the past three years, earnings from all portfolios have been volatile. A new real estate allocation was added to CCEFF in 2014; the investments are divided by 30% Canadian equities, 25% global equities, 35% fixed income, and 10% real estate.

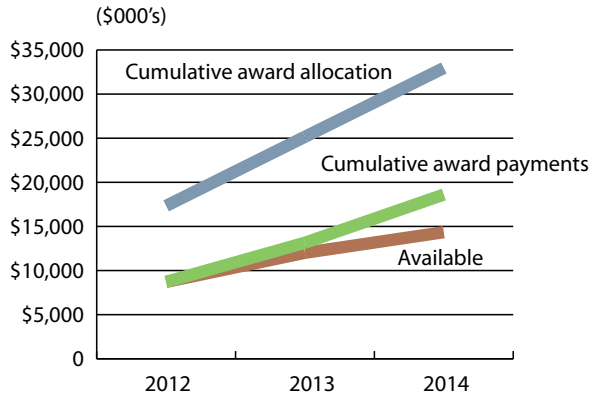
In 2014 the overall rate of return was 12.0%, which is a decrease over the 2013 return of 14.7%. The annualized rate of return for the last three years was 12.0%, in excess of the benchmark return of 10.2% per year.





## COAST CONSERVATION ENDOWMENT FUND FOUNDATION ANNUAL AWARD ALLOCATION AND AWARD PAYMENTS

Although the annual payments to First Nations have increased year over year, they have not kept pace with available funding. Coast Funds anticipates that this gap will close as First Nations continue to build stewardship offices and identify conservation initiatives.



Of the revenue fund totalling \$19.3 million at December 31, 2014, \$15.4 million is currently available to be drawn down for award distribution. The remaining balance of \$3.9 million has been set aside for future distribution in the event that investment income is less than a target minimum in a future year.

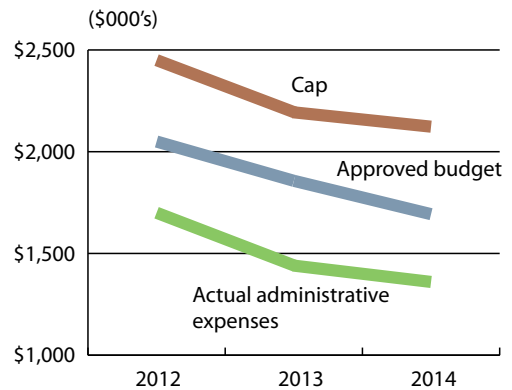
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### CCEFF Yearly Fund Balances

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Opening Fund Balance	0	2,034	58,371	64,823	68,258	66,829	69,305	73,783
Contributions	2,000	55,829	15	4	10	11	13	11
Net Investment Income	47	954	7,677	5,877	1,393	6,008	9,166	8,178
Operating Expenses	13	208	228	316	399	478	427	384
Awards Expense	0	238	1,012	2,130	2,433	3,065	4,275	6,163
Closing Fund Balance	2,034	58,371	64,823	68,258	66,829	69,305	73,783	75,425

### COMBINED OPERATING EXPENSES

Coast Funds' goal is to operate as efficiently as possible while meeting the standards for service and due diligence outlined in our governing documents. Over the last three years, the Board approved budgets which are substantially lower than the cap imposed by the funders. In addition, administration costs have been below budget for each of the three years.



For more detailed financial information see the condensed financial statements on the following pages.

COAST ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SOCIETY  
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AT DECEMBER 31, 2014

	2014	2013
<b>Assets</b>		
<b>Current assets</b>		
Cash	\$ 2,888,303	\$ 1,673,761
Restricted deposit	772,132	762,099
Short-term investments	4,198,381	6,872,420
Due from the Foundation	143,826	14,765
Other current assets	6,150	3,642
	<u>8,008,792</u>	<u>9,326,687</u>
Investments	35,278,162	38,640,821
Property and other assets	8,548	13,052
	<u>\$ 43,295,502</u>	<u>\$ 47,980,560</u>
<b>Liabilities and Net Assets</b>		
<b>Current liabilities</b>		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 123,515	\$ 123,546
Accrued award distribution	1,513,345	755,460
	<u>1,636,860</u>	<u>879,006</u>
<b>Net assets</b>		
<b>Externally restricted</b>		
Federal revenue fund	9,699,436	8,128,697
Provincial revenue fund	492,052	1,143,760
Regional economic development planning fund	284,918	231,269
Federal economic development fund	30,000,000	30,000,000
Provincial economic development fund	1,182,236	7,597,828
	<u>41,658,642</u>	<u>47,101,554</u>
	<u>\$ 43,295,502</u>	<u>\$ 47,980,560</u>

Financial information extracted from the audited financial statements of Coast Economic Development Society. A complete copy of the audited financial statements is available upon request.

COAST ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SOCIETY  
STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2014

	Federal revenue fund	Provincial revenue fund	Regional economic development planning fund	Federal economic development fund	Provincial economic development fund	2014 Total	2013 Total
<b>Revenue</b>							
Net investment income	\$ 1,570,739	\$ 323,306	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,894,045	\$ 1,591,719
<b>Expenses</b>							
Administration	-	61,517	-	-	-	61,517	73,001
Awards	-	-	(53,649)	-	6,415,592	6,361,943	3,932,164
Board expenses	-	149,874	-	-	-	149,874	140,217
Capacity and support services	-	104,331	-	-	-	104,331	25,920
Communications	-	37,023	-	-	-	37,023	35,604
Facilities and equipment	-	113,855	-	-	-	113,855	104,150
Personnel	-	624,551	-	-	-	624,551	589,738
Professional fees	-	101,906	-	-	-	101,906	194,934
	-	1,193,057	(53,649)	-	6,415,592	7,555,000	5,095,728
Recovery from the Foundation	-	(218,043)	-	-	-	(218,043)	(149,333)
	-	975,014	(53,649)	-	6,415,592	7,336,957	4,946,395
<b>Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenses</b>	1,570,739	(651,708)	53,649	-	(6,415,592)	(5,442,912)	(3,354,676)
<b>Net assets, beginning of year</b>	8,128,697	1,143,760	231,269	30,000,000	7,597,828	47,101,554	50,456,230
<b>Net assets, end of year</b>	\$ 9,699,436	\$ 492,052	\$ 284,918	\$ 30,000,000	\$ 1,182,236	\$ 41,658,642	\$ 47,101,554

COAST CONSERVATION ENDOWMENT FUND FOUNDATION  
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AT DECEMBER 31, 2014

	2014	2013
<b>Assets</b>		
<b>Current assets</b>		
Cash	\$ 2,107,625	\$ 1,096,479
Government and other receivables	37,838	13,685
Short-term investments	2,028,089	449,217
Property and equipment	77,680	-
	<u>4,251,232</u>	<u>1,559,381</u>
<b>Investments</b>	<u>72,129,025</u>	<u>72,344,364</u>
	<u>\$ 76,380,257</u>	<u>\$ 73,903,745</u>
<b>Liabilities and Net Assets</b>		
<b>Liabilities</b>		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 106,927	\$ 106,009
Due to Society	143,826	14,765
Accrued award distribution	704,870	-
	<u>955,623</u>	<u>120,774</u>
<b>Net assets</b>		
General	49,387	37,887
<b>Externally restricted</b>		
Revenue fund	19,327,422	17,676,928
Regional conservation planning fund	219,210	239,541
Conservation endowment fund	<u>55,828,615</u>	<u>55,828,615</u>
	<u>75,424,634</u>	<u>73,782,971</u>
	<u>\$ 76,380,257</u>	<u>\$ 73,903,745</u>

Financial information extracted from the audited financial statements of Coast Conservation Endowment Fund Foundation. A complete copy of the audited financial statements is available upon request.

COAST CONSERVATION ENDOWMENT FUND FOUNDATION  
STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2014

	General	Revenue fund	Regional conservation planning fund	Conservation endowment fund	2014 Total	2013 Total
<b>Revenue</b>						
Contributions	11,500	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	11,500	\$ 13,487
Net investment income	-	8,178,439	-	-	8,178,439	9,166,147
	<u>11,500</u>	<u>8,178,439</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>8,189,939</u>	<u>9,179,634</u>
<b>Expenses</b>						
Administration	-	5,536	-	-	5,536	18,197
Awards	-	6,142,819	20,331	-	6,163,150	4,275,146
Capacity	-	12,197	-	-	12,197	29,197
Cost sharing with the Society	-	221,305	-	-	221,305	151,769
Personnel	-	102,170	-	-	102,170	188,209
Professional fees	-	43,918	-	-	43,918	39,406
	<u>-</u>	<u>6,527,945</u>	<u>20,331</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,548,276</u>	<u>4,701,924</u>
<b>Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenses</b>	11,500	1,650,494	(20,331)	-	1,641,663	4,477,710
<b>Net assets, beginning of year</b>	37,887	17,676,928	239,541	55,828,615	73,782,971	69,305,261
<b>Net assets, end of year</b>	<u>\$ 49,387</u>	<u>\$ 19,327,422</u>	<u>\$ 219,210</u>	<u>\$ 55,828,615</u>	<u>\$ 75,424,634</u>	<u>\$ 73,782,971</u>

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The two funds are run by **separate societies** who share a common board of directors. The board manages the affairs of the organization and reports to the members.



**Sage Berryman** (previously Baker) is the Chief Operating Officer of the Ralmax Group of Companies. Through her career she has worked with a number of high growth companies where she led multiple successful business/strategic planning initiatives, private and public financings, and sales and marketing programs. Sage holds an MBA from Queen's University and she serves on multiple boards and is an active advisor for numerous entrepreneurs and their businesses.



**Cameron Brown** is a citizen of the Heiltsuk First Nation and an independent management consultant specializing in Aboriginal management and economic development and training and education. He has also served as the National Director, Aboriginal Banking (Toronto) for the CIBC and was a professor at Trent University in Peterborough, Ontario, in the Native Management and Economic Development Program. He previously served as Band Manager and a Councilor for his First Nation.



**Merv Child, Chair** is a lawyer practising in the areas of administrative and aboriginal law. He also acts as the Executive Director for the Nanwakolas Council, a Campbell River-based society of seven First Nations addressing land and resource use issues and related economic development opportunities.



**Percy Crosby** represents Skidegate at the Haida House as an elected official for the CHN. He has held an executive position on the boards of Gwaii Trust and Gwaii Forest Charitable Trust and sits on the board of Haida Gwaii Community Futures. He also works for the BC Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations as a First Nations Liaison. He acts as the coordinator and board member for the Haida Gwaii Cultural Wood Advisory Board, representing the Province.



**Garth Davis** is the CEO of New Market Funds and has spent more than 20 years in capital deployment. He has leadership experience in impact investing (Vancity Community Capital), private equity (Turtle Creek and Scotia Merchant Capital), and corporate and leveraged finance (Scotia Capital). He has a Master of Arts in International Economics from the Paul H. Nitze School for Advanced International Studies, Johns Hopkins University, a Master of Science from the London School of Economics and Political Science, and a Bachelor of Arts from Simon Fraser University.



**Darcy J. Dobell** has over 20 years' experience in policy, strategic planning, and communications in public and non-profit sectors. As VP, Conservation and Pacific at WWF-Canada, she led conservation programs in BC and across Canada. She also served for a number of years as a director and co-Chair of the Clayoquot Biosphere Trust, and was the founding Chair of the Raincoast Education Society. Through her consulting company, Darcy currently works with First Nations, government agencies, businesses, and NGOs to advance sustainability initiatives.



**Wally Eamer** has a Bachelor of Arts from University of B.C. and Master of Business Administration from Harvard. He worked for over twenty years in the provincial government, including various ministries with environmental and economic development mandates. In the Central Coast process from 2002, he was the provincial Table representative. He was a provincial negotiator with First Nations in 2004 and 2005, and since 2006 has worked on EBM implementation with the Nanwakolas Council. In 2008 he was ordained a deacon in the Anglican Church of Canada.



**Chris Trumpy** holds a Bachelor of Commerce degree and a Certified General Accountant designation. While working for the provincial government he was Deputy Minister of the Ministries of Finance and Corporate Relations; Provincial Revenue; Sustainable Resource Management; and Environment. He has also been Secretary to the Treasury Board and is the former Chair of the Pacific Carbon Trust. He currently sits on the boards of Puget Sound Energy, Coast Capital Savings Credit Union and Pacific Sport Victoria.



**Gerald Wesley** is the Vice-Chair of the Northern Development Initiative Trust, chief negotiator for the Tsimshian First Nations Treaty Society, and a consultant offering services to First Nations. He has served on numerous Boards in BC and is one of the original members for the University of Victoria, Administration of Aboriginal Governments Program Advisory Committee. He also has extensive experience in the forest industry and in band and tribal council administration. Gerald is a hereditary chieftain from the Kitsumkalum First Nation just outside of Terrace, B.C.

## 2014 MEMBERS

The members represent the **interests** of the eligible **First Nations** communities and of the original funders.

**Ross McMillan** President and CEO, Tides Canada Foundation

**Jenny Brown** Director of Conservation Programs, the Nature Conservancy of Canada

**Dallas Smith** President, Nanwakolas Council

**Marilyn Slett** Chief Councillor, Heiltsuk First Nation

**Neilane Mayhew** Assistant Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Aboriginal Relations & Reconciliation

**Craig Sutherland** Assistant Deputy Minister, Coast Area, B.C. Ministry of Forests, Land, and Natural Resource Operations

**Cynthia Samuels** Old Masset Regional Representative, Council of the Haida Nation (non-voting) (replacing April Churchill)

**Bruce Watkinson** Fisheries Manager with Gitxaala Environmental Monitoring (non-voting)

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD VISIT HAIDA GWAI, JUNE 2014



## STAFF



**David Mannix** Snuneymuxw First Nation, Executive Director, is responsible for the general management of Coast Funds, including implementing the mandate of Coast Funds, overseeing the awards assessment, process, building successful relationships with First Nation communities, the Board of Directors, government and other key audiences, management of the financial performance of Coast Funds, and human resource management. He has a background in private enterprise, having owned his own forest company for twenty years, and managed economic development for Snuneymuxw First Nation for thirteen years.



**Brodie Guy** Director, Project Investment, has a background in sustainable development within the private and public sectors. He has led strategic initiatives and directed project investments throughout northern BC for a \$200 million trust and has managed international marketing for an environmental technology firm. Most recently, Brodie was British Columbia's liaison to the World Bank.



**Chris Earle** Director of Finance and Administration, has a BCom and is a CMA. Immediately prior to joining Coast Funds Chris was Director of Finance at St. Michael's Centre Hospital Society in Burnaby. He brings with him extensive experience in financial management, business analysis and strategy, risk management and operational and governance processes.



**Robin Poirier** Project Analyst, is responsible for reporting and measuring impacts of Coast Opportunity Funds' conservation and economic development projects. She has worked in marine conservation and sustainable seafood, First Nations' economic development, and the Canadian inbound adventure tourism sector in business development and market research roles. She holds an MBA and Bachelor of Science from the University of British Columbia.



**Meaghan Hume** Client Services Liaison, has formerly worked in international development, education, and leadership programming for First Nations youth. She has experience overseas as a Communications Manager at a gender rights non-government organization in Uganda, and has also worked as a Writing Fellow for the University of British Columbia Okanagan. Most recently, she was a project coordinator for VIDEA, where she worked on collaborations with First Nations in BC. She holds a MA with a concentration in indigenous topics from the University of British Columbia Okanagan.



**Andrea Harrison** Accountant and Board Administrator, is a CMA and has a Bachelor of Science from the University of Alberta. Andrea has ten years' experience as an accountant in the not-for-profit sector, most recently working with the Canadian Cancer Society. Between 2000–2010, Andrea was Chief Financial Officer for the First Nations' Employment Society, which provides training and employment assistance to First Nations people.



**Gráinne Mathews** Administrative Assistant, completed a Masters in Political Lobbying and Public Affairs at the University of Ulster. She interned with a number of environmental charities and not-for-profit organizations including Stratagem, a public affairs consultancy. Gráinne joined Stratagem as a CRM Project Assistant and subsequently a Public Affairs Analyst, working mainly in the energy and environmental sectors but also in education and transport.







Our logo was designed by artist Curtis Wilson, whose Hamat'sa name, passed down to him through potlatch, is Tayanaxwalis, (his everyday name is Mulidzas) and whose English given name is Curtis Wilson. Curtis was born and raised in Campbell River and his families are traditionally from the four corners of the Kwakwak'awakw territory. The roots of his family can be traced to the Axwamees (Wakeman Sound), 'Nakwaxda'xw (Ba'as-Blunden Harbour) and to the Leqwiltokw Nations.

Curtis has a BA in First Nations Studies from Vancouver Island University and has been part of the Laichwiltach Culture Group for many years. In his carving career, he utilizes many techniques and styles learned from his grandfather Sam Henderson Sr. and from his uncles and cousins, while developing a unique style of his own. His goal is to learn as much about his culture and heritage as he can to pass it on to the next generation.



# COAST OPPORTUNITY FUNDS ANNUAL REPORT 2014



Coast Economic Development Society

Coast Conservation Endowment Fund Foundation

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