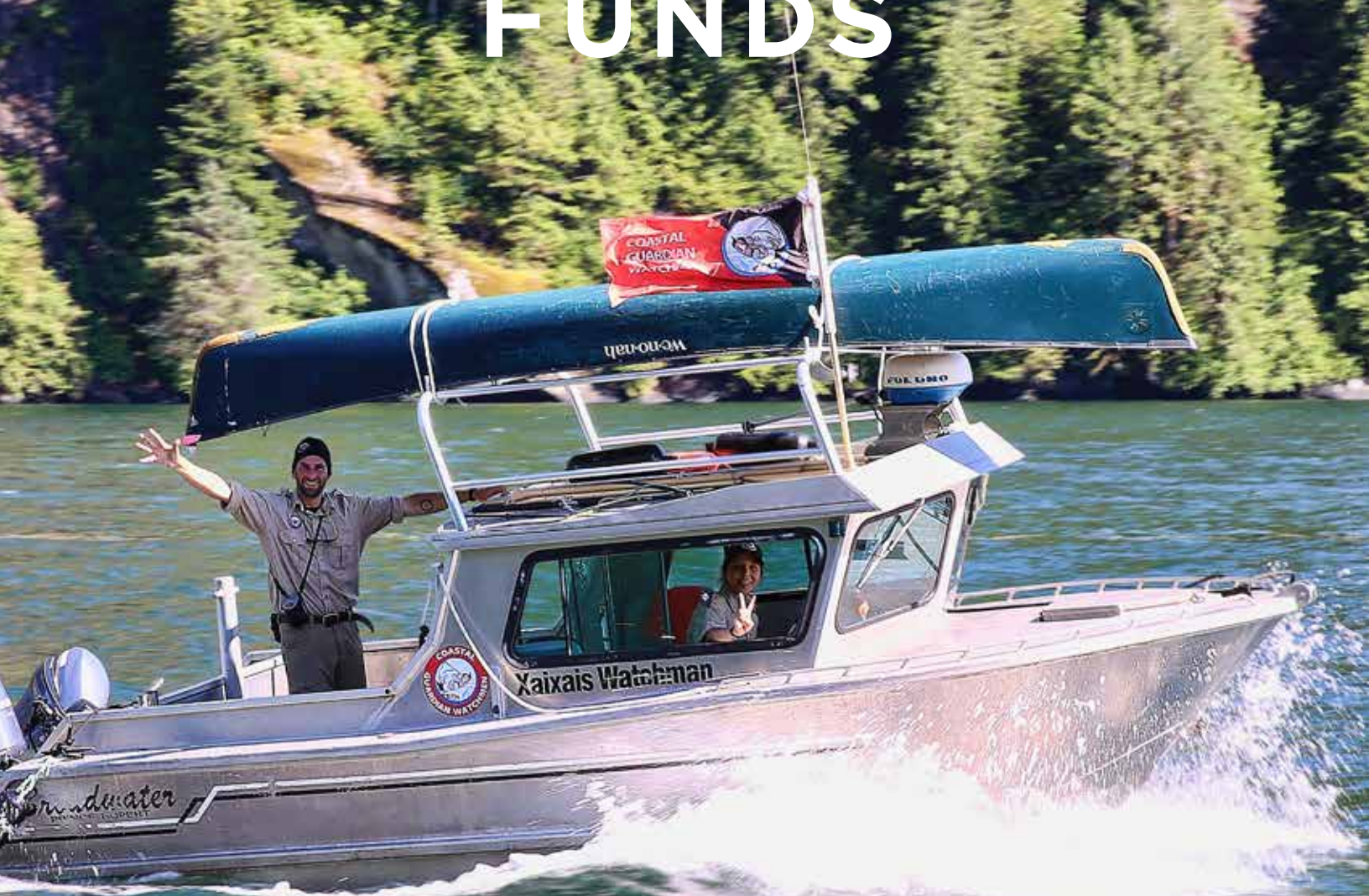




# COAST FUNDS



## 2017 Annual Report



**Coast Funds** is two separate organizations managing \$118 million provided by six private foundations, the Province of British Columbia, and the Government of Canada.



**COAST  
FUNDS**

COAST CONSERVATION  
ENDOWMENT FUND  
FOUNDATION

**Coast Conservation Endowment Fund Foundation** is a registered Canadian charity responsible for managing a \$2 million regional conservation planning fund and a permanent endowment fund of approximately \$56 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 investment performance of the fund.



**COAST  
FUNDS**

COAST ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT  
SOCIETY

**Coast Economic Development Society** is a not-for-profit society responsible for managing a \$60 million economic development fund in support of First Nations communities and businesses. The capital in this fund is invested in business development initiatives throughout the Great Bear Rainforest and Haida Gwaii, targeting sectors with good potential to support sustainable development in the region and strengthen community well-being.

COVER PHOTO

Guardian Watchmen conduct regional monitoring  
in Mathieson Channel, Kitasoo/Xai'xais territory

PHOTO BY

Brodie Guy

# CONTENTS

<b>04</b>	Message from the Chair
<b>06</b>	About Coast Funds
<b>08</b>	Our Mandate
<b>08</b>	Vision
<b>08</b>	Mission
<b>08</b>	Core Values
<b>09</b>	Organizational Principles
<b>10</b>	Participating First Nations
<b>11</b>	Our Project Area
<b>13</b>	Community Well-Being Outcomes
<b>13</b>	2017 Highlights
<b>14</b>	Outcomes Since Inception
<b>17</b>	Conservation Fund
<b>17</b>	2017 Highlights
<b>18</b>	Funding Approved in 2017
<b>22</b>	Economic Development Fund
<b>22</b>	2017 Highlights
<b>23</b>	Funding Approved in 2017
<b>26</b>	Financial Performance
<b>26</b>	2017 Highlights
<b>26</b>	Combined Operating Expenses of Both Funds
<b>28</b>	Conservation Fund Performance
<b>32</b>	Economic Development Fund Performance
<b>35</b>	Who We Are
<b>35</b>	Funders
<b>35</b>	Members
<b>36</b>	Board of Directors
<b>38</b>	Staff





# MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

It has been another wonderful year of Coast Funds collaborating with First Nations to invest in conservation and economic development throughout the Great Bear Rainforest and Haida Gwaii. Having served on the board since its inception, I've been inspired by the breadth and impact of First Nations' efforts to strengthen community economic prosperity, environmental conservation, social empowerment, and cultural vitality across the coast.

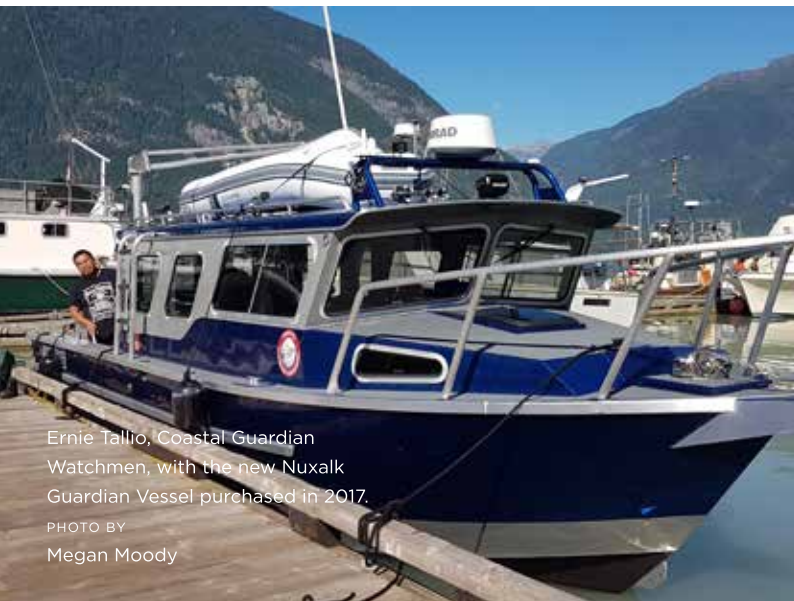
**This year, Coast Funds approved \$6 million in new investments and, since inception, we have invested \$76.9 million into vital projects led by First Nations whose territories span the Great Bear Rainforest and Haida Gwaii.** Over the past decade, First Nations have, together with Coast Funds, invested over \$266.4 million to develop and diversify British Columbia's coastal economy.

We continue our dedicated support of First Nations' efforts to build a sustainable coastal economy. This year we formalized the continuance of the economic development fund through an agreement with the Province of British Columbia. This decision followed discussions with First Nations that we held throughout 2016. We continue to ensure the economic development fund is fully invested in supporting First Nations' community-based projects, and we appreciate the support of the Province and our funders for this ongoing effort.

In 2017, Coast Funds' board approved investments of \$2.5 million toward 15 economic development projects. First Nations are leveraging this financing to attract an additional \$10.3 million in new investments to their communities. **Economic development funding approved in 2017 is helping to create and expand seven new First Nations-owned businesses, and supports the creation of an additional 90 permanent new jobs**—all while playing a crucial role in diversifying the economy and building resilient community capacity.

Arising out of the long-term thinking that informed our 2017-19 Strategic Plan, we initiated dialogue with First Nations and funders about the sustainability of Coast Funds' conservation financing. We learned a lot this year and we heard many important perspectives that will guide us in the years ahead. We will continue to work with communities and funders to ensure conservation financing is sustained for First Nations' future generations—a central purpose of Coast Funds' founding mandate.

In 2017, Coast Funds' board approved \$3.5 million towards 17 conservation projects. **Conservation funding approved in 2017 is supporting 181 permanent stewardship, guardian watchman, and related conservation jobs.** Supported conservation initiatives this year range from



Ernie Tallio, Coastal Guardian Watchmen, with the new Nuxalk Guardian Vessel purchased in 2017.

PHOTO BY  
Megan Moody

These investments span 330 projects that Coast Funds board and staff are proud to have supported—each project contributing in a unique way to improving community well-being and resilience of ecosystems in the region.

habitat restoration projects to investment in new research and monitoring equipment that will support a better understanding of species and ecosystems while improving the safety and operational capacity of guardian programs.

In 2017, we worked closely with First Nations to capture and share the knowledge gained from their projects through our storytelling efforts, including Coast Funds' newly launched Facebook page. Through these stories, **we are facilitating knowledge sharing between communities and furthering public awareness of First Nations' efforts as well as the vital role of conservation financing in the Great Bear Rainforest and Haida Gwaii.**

I am delighted to announce that the board appointed Percy Crosby as its Vice Chair in 2017. In preparation for mid-2019 when I will have served my maximum term as a director, Percy and I will work closely together to ensure a smooth leadership transition. Percy was first appointed to the board in 2013, following his nomination by the Council of the Haida Nation, and has served as Chair of Coast Funds' Capacity Building Committee and as a member of our Project Review Committee.

This year we welcomed two new staff members to our team. Laura Hope joined us as Communications Specialist and Lydia Lew as Financial Administrator. Our Accountant, Andrea Harrison, and our Director of Finance, Chris Earle, retired this year. We wish them both the best in their retirements.

Looking back on the years that have passed since our inception, I am immensely proud of the broad range of successful projects First Nations have undertaken in collaboration with Coast Funds, and of the resulting achievements in sustainable community development and conservation across the Great Bear region. Coast Funds is honoured to work with First Nations in this extraordinary part of the world.

As always, I would like to thank the board members and staff of Coast Funds for their continuing contribution to the success of the organization and the First Nations we serve.




Merv Child  
Chair, Coast Funds



PHOTO  
Henry Seaweed, hereditary chief of 'Nakwaxda'xw Nation, performs a traditional dance at a celebration for the grand opening of Kwa'lilas Hotel in Port Hardy. The hotel was purchased and developed by the Gwa'sala-'Nakwaxda'xw Nations.

PHOTO BY  
Kwa'lilas Hotel

# ABOUT COAST FUNDS

Coast Funds was created in 2007 out of mutual recognition by conservationists, First Nations, industry, and government that a sustainable economy is vital to conservation efforts in the Great Bear Rainforest and Haida Gwaii areas of British Columbia.

**First Nations communities have cared for and depended on their traditional territories in this region for their cultural, social, and economic well-being since time immemorial.** The region also has compelling conservation value. The Great Bear Rainforest and Haida Gwaii are magnificent old-growth forest ecosystems representing one of the world's largest remaining coastal temperate rainforests and supporting wild Pacific salmon, genetically unique wolves, grizzly bears, and the white “spirit” bear among many other species.

A healthy environment in the Great Bear Rainforest requires maintaining the link between the environment, local First Nations, a sustainable economy, and healthy communities. First Nations' management of the environment and the economy of the region determines not only their own future, but the future of the Great Bear Rainforest and Haida Gwaii as a whole.

**Coast Funds was created to make the vital connection between sustainable development projects that embrace conservation values;** the social, cultural and economic well-being of the First Nations communities; and the 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 on the central and north coast of BC and on Haida Gwaii to achieve healthy and vibrant economies and communities in tandem with the conservation of their homelands for the benefit of future generations.



“The data collected through the Lax Kw’alaams dungeness crab monitoring project has provided insight into pressures on, and the status of, important crab resource areas around Lax Kw’alaams.”

Bill Shepert, Fisheries Manager, Lax Kw’alaams Fisheries Stewardship program. The program continues to conduct rigorous scientific research to monitor the condition and use of marine resources within Lax Kw’alaams territory.



Jim Henry Jr., fisheries technician with Lax Kw’alaams Fisheries Stewardship program, conducts dungeness crab biosampling data as part of surveys occurring year-round in Stumaun Bay and Big Bay.

COURTESY OF  
Lax Kw’alaams Fisheries Stewardship program

# OUR MANDATE

## Vision

Participating First Nations enjoy strengthened community well-being while maintaining coastal ecosystems throughout the Great Bear Rainforest and Haida Gwaii.

## Mission

To partner with Participating First Nations in achieving their goals for permanent conservation and sustainable economic development.

## Core Values

The Board has adopted the following core values to guide the operations of Coast Funds:

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



In 2017, the Haisla Nation convened its first cultural summer camp in recent years for 20 Haisla youth in Weewanie Wa'wais.

PHOTO BY  
Mike Jacobs



## Organizational Principles



### **MUTUALLY RESPECTFUL RELATIONSHIPS**

We endeavour to provide the highest level of support to Participating First Nations through a mutually respectful relationship.



### **COLLABORATIVE DUE DILIGENCE**

Coast Funds works in close partnership with Participating First Nations to make responsible, objective, and business-based decisions to develop successful applications and to fund sound, high quality projects.



### **CAPACITY BUILDING**

Coast Funds supports Participating First Nations as they strengthen their capacity and develop relationships between each other and with other agencies, financial institutions, and potential partners to leverage additional resources, increase the opportunities for success, and maximize the impact of Coast Funds' project investments through relationship building, facilitation, and knowledge sharing.



### **RESPONSIBLE STEWARDSHIP OF FUNDS**

Integral to all Coast Funds' work is the responsible administration and investment of the funds entrusted to it for current and future generations by private funders and the governments of British Columbia and Canada for the purposes set out in our governing documents.



### **DEMONSTRATING BEST PRACTICES**

Coast Funds strives to be highly trusted and respected for its leadership in strong governance and management, continuous learning and proactive knowledge sharing, project outcomes reporting, and its value-added service to First Nations.

# PARTICIPATING FIRST NATIONS

Coast Funds works in partnership with the following Participating First Nations and their regional organizations whose territories span the Great Bear Rainforest and Haida Gwaii.



**Coastal First Nations -  
Great Bear Initiative**  
North and  
Central Coast



**Da'naxda'xw  
Awaetlala**  
Knight Inlet



**Dzawada'enuxw**  
Kingcome Inlet



**Gitanyow**  
Kitwanga River



**Gitga'a't**  
Hartley Bay



**Gitxaala**  
Kitkatla



**Gwa'sala-  
'Nakwaxda'xw**  
Smith and  
Seymour Inlets



**Gwawaenuk**  
Watson Island



**Haida**  
Haida Gwaii



**Haisla**  
Kitamaat



**Heiltsuk**  
Bella Bella



**K'ómoks**  
Comox



**Kitsoo / Xai'xais**  
Klemtu



**Kitselas**  
Terrace



**Kwikwaka**  
Phillips and  
Frederick Arm



**Kwikwasut'inuxw  
Haxwa'mis**  
Gilford Island



**Lax Kw'alaams**  
Tsimshian Peninsula



**Mamalilikulla**  
Village and  
Compton Islands



**Metlakatla**  
Prince Rupert



**'Namgis**  
Alert Bay



**Nanwakolas  
Council**  
South Central Coast



**Nisga'a**  
Nass Valley



**North Coast Skeena  
First Nations  
Stewardship Society**  
North Coast & Lower  
Skeena River Coast



**Nuxalk**  
Bella Coola



**Tlowlitsis**  
Johnstone Strait



**Ulkatcho**  
Anahim Lake



**We Wai Kai**  
Quadra Island



**Wei Wai Kum**  
Campbell River



**Wuikinuxv**  
Rivers Inlet



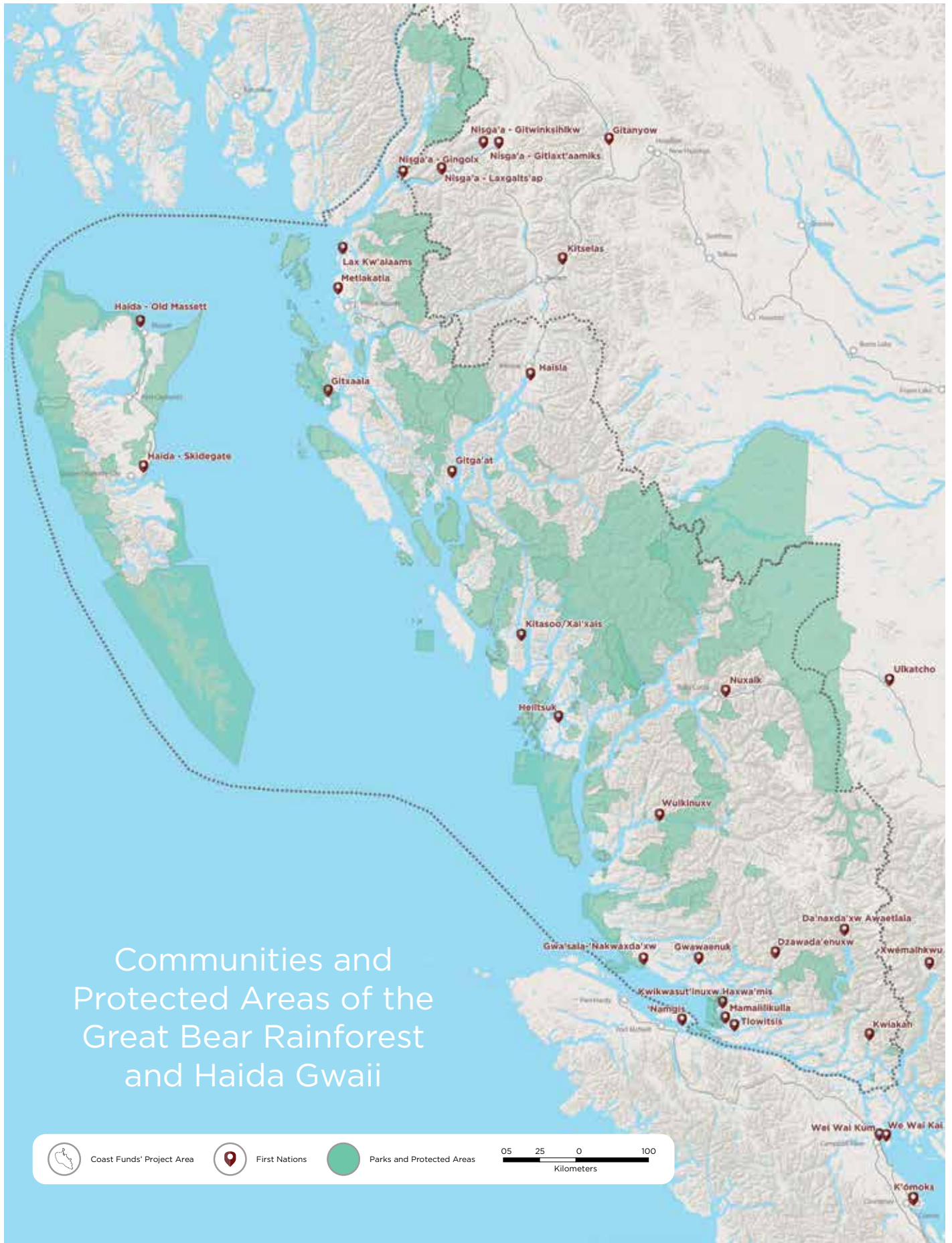
**Xwémalhkwu  
(Homalco)**  
Bute Inlet



## OUR PROJECT AREA



**COAST FUNDS**



Coast Funds' Project Area



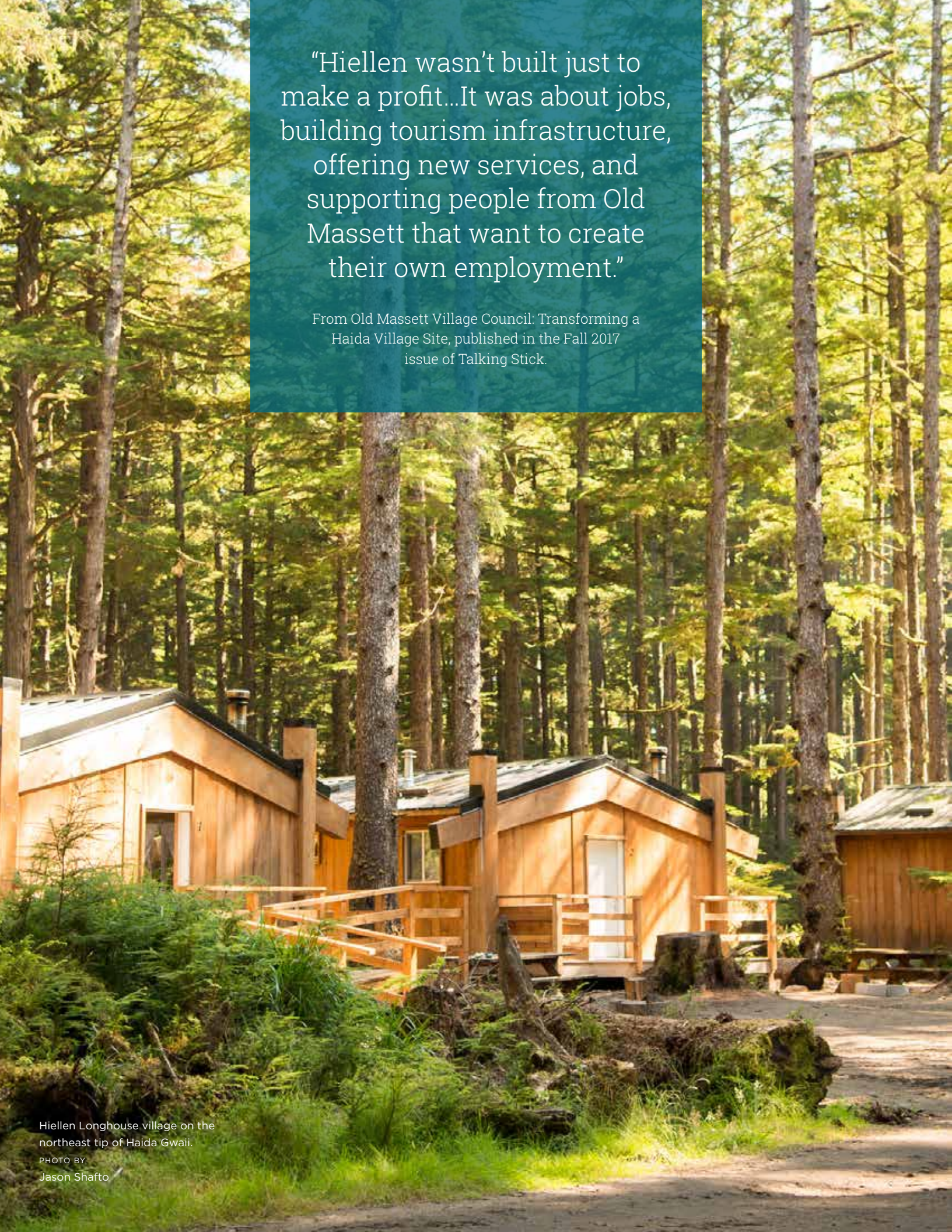
First Nations



### Parks and Protected Areas

Kilometers:





“Hiellen wasn’t built just to make a profit...It was about jobs, building tourism infrastructure, offering new services, and supporting people from Old Massett that want to create their own employment.”

From Old Massett Village Council: Transforming a Haida Village Site, published in the Fall 2017 issue of Talking Stick.

Hiellen Longhouse village on the northeast tip of Haida Gwaii.

PHOTO BY  
Jason Shafto



# COMMUNITY WELL-BEING OUTCOMES



Coast Funds measures the contribution every project makes to strengthening community well-being in First Nations communities throughout the Great Bear Rainforest and Haida Gwaii. We do this in partnership with First Nations via twenty indicators of environmental conservation, economic prosperity, social empowerment, and cultural vitality.

## 2017 Highlights

**In 2017, First Nations completed 26 projects funded by Coast Funds.** Those projects contributed to community well-being in the following ways:

- **14 Guardian Watchmen programs monitored 2.3 million hectares of coastline**—an increase of 36 per cent from the previous year.
- Due in large part to the start-up of Kwa'lilas Hotel in Port Hardy by the Gwa'sala-'Nakwaxda'xw Nations, there was a **52 per cent increase in training days from the previous year.** A total of 4,517 training days were completed by First Nation individuals in 2017.
- **27 additional species were protected, enhanced, or better understood in 2017 through First Nations' conservation efforts.** The number of research and restoration initiatives increased by 48 per cent over the previous year.
- Through the completion of a cultural tourism and marketing initiative, **Nisga'a was added to the list of nine languages being revitalized** through First Nations' projects.
- **First Nations' initiatives involving access to traditional foods increased by 35 per cent from the previous year.** Programs such as the Gitga'at Guardians support traditional food access by harvesting and distributing fish to the community and monitoring for contamination.

Dawn Nicolson of Dzawada'enuxw First Nation, Kingcome River. This year, the Nation completed an economic development scan with the support of Coast Funds.

PHOTO BY  
Brodie Guy

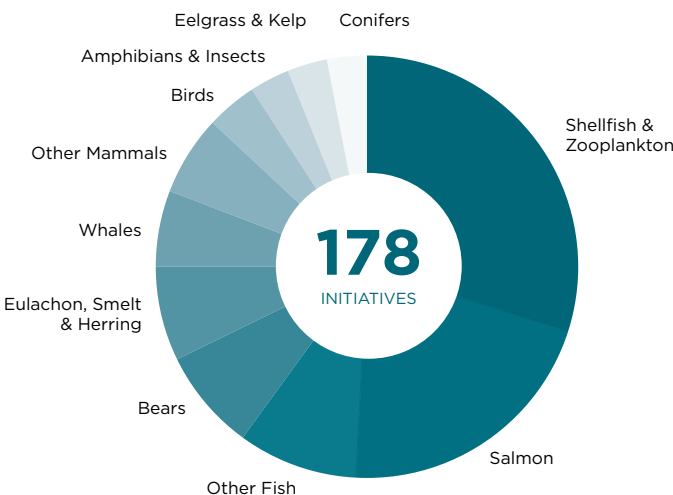


# OUTCOMES SINCE INCEPTION

## Environmental Conservation

First Nations are leading conservation and research initiatives in the Great Bear Rainforest and Haida Gwaii to protect and sustain the ecological integrity of the region. First Nations have conducted 178 scientific research or habitat restoration initiatives on 58 different species, including whale, wolverine, bear, salmon, herring, eulachon and more.

### SPECIES RESEARCH AND RESTORATION INITIATIVES BY FIRST NATIONS



## Economic Prosperity

First Nations are creating, acquiring, and expanding businesses to increase their participation in the regional economy. By building resilient communities, First Nations are able to support community well-being through employment and financial wealth creation. First Nations have created, acquired, or expanded 100 businesses with funding from Coast Funds.

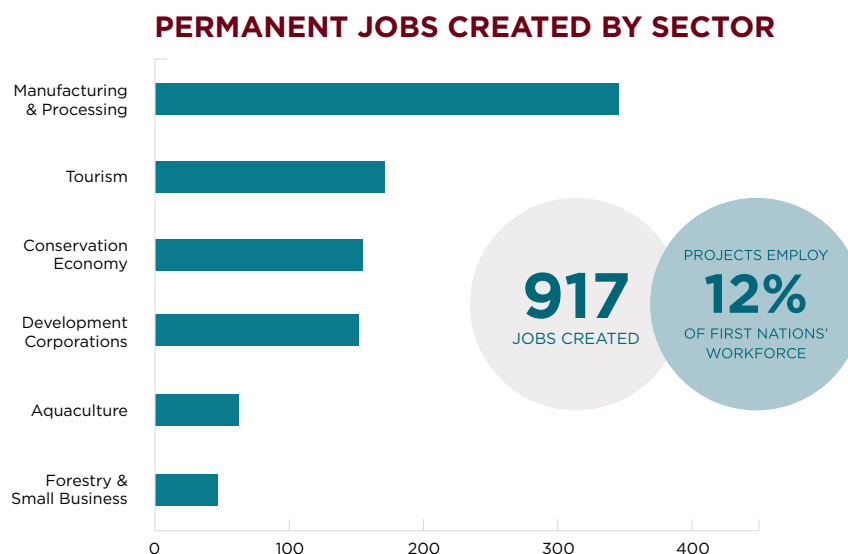
### FIRST NATIONS' BUSINESSES CREATED AND EXPANDED BY SECTOR





## Social Empowerment

First Nations are providing new, family-supporting employment opportunities and retaining community members in the Great Bear Rainforest and Haida Gwaii. First Nations have created 917 permanent new jobs. 692 of these jobs are held by First Nations community members, equivalent to 12 per cent of the working age population of First Nations communities in the region.



## Cultural Vitality

First Nations are strengthening access to traditional foods for health, culture, food security, and improving species abundance in the Great Bear Rainforest and Haida Gwaii. First Nations have led 58 projects, with Coast Funds, involving access to traditional foods through research, education, and restoration work.

### PROJECTS ENHANCING FIRST NATIONS' ACCESS TO TRADITIONAL FOODS





“We wanted to confirm the presence of northern goshawk liangi subspecies and its critical habitat on Nisga’a lands so we can use that knowledge in planning for the sustainable use of resources, while protecting the ecological integrity of the environment.”

From a study detecting breeding areas of the northern goshawk liangi subspecies in the Lower Nass Valley, led by the Nisga’a Lisims Government. The bird is red-listed in BC and listed as threatened under the federal Species at Risk Act.



Shaquille Barton detects breeding areas of the Northern Goshawk liangi subspecies in the Lower Nass Valley, Nisga’a territory.

PHOTO BY  
Nisga’a Lisims Government

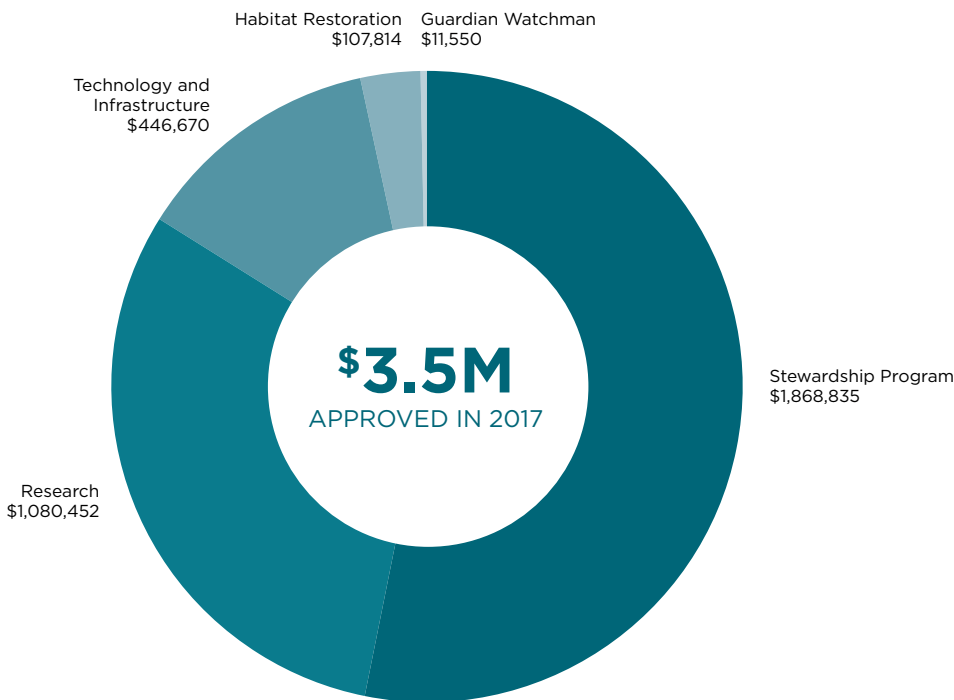


## 2017 Highlights

**In 2017, Coast Funds approved \$3,515,321 towards 17 conservation projects. This is anticipated to leverage \$6,016,633 in additional funding for total new investments of \$9,100,882. The anticipated long-term outcomes generated by these projects include:**

- Expansion of seven stewardship or Guardian Watchmen programs and support for 10 project-based conservation initiatives;
- Creation of 47 permanent jobs, including 46 new jobs employing First Nations individuals;
- Ongoing support of organizations that provide 181 permanent jobs, including 161 jobs employing First Nations individuals in the region;
- Work in 26 protected areas that will include infrastructure upgrades, monitoring and conservancy management, field research, habitat restoration, development of conservation management plans, and the review of permit applications in terms of ecosystem-based management; and
- Research and habitat restoration projects focusing on 27 different species.

### APPROVED CONSERVATION FUNDING IN 2017



# CONSERVATION FUNDING APPROVED IN 2017



## **Council of the Haida Nation** K'yuusda Watchmen Cabin Redevelopment

**\$177,742 approved**

To invest in the development of a new Haida Watchmen cabin at K'yuusda, located in Duu Guusd Heritage Site/Conservancy, a key base of Haida stewardship efforts that: monitor commercial recreational fisheries surrounding Langara Island, undertake peregrine falcon and northern goshawk research projects, support the Haida Nation's cultural features identification research, and further conservation initiatives in northwest Haida Gwaii



## **Gitga'at First Nation** Fisheries, Guardian Watchmen & Lands and Marine Programs - 2017/18 Operations

**\$300,000 approved**

To support operations of the Fisheries, Guardian Watchmen, and Lands and Marine program including applying Gitga'at adaawx and ayaalk (Indigenous knowledge) to resource management, engaging in the Provincial Environmental Stewardship Initiative, commencing a community knowledge project that captures harvesters' observations of environmental conditions, initiate re-charting of forestry operating areas, renew strategic planning for Gitga'at Lands and Marine Department, and engaging with the Government of Canada and other north coast First Nations on marine protected area discussions



## **Gwa'sala-Nakwaxda'xw First Nation** Stewardship Program - 2017 Operations

**\$334,756 approved**

To support all aspects of the Guardian Watchmen program and resource management programs including juvenile sockeye salmon research in the Docee River and Long Lake, abalone abundance surveys in Smith Inlet, grizzly bear research in the Nekite watershed and Seymour Inlet, and steelhead and chum salmon monitoring in the Nekite watershed



## **Haisla Nation Council** Haisla Fisheries Commission - 2017/18 Operations

**\$230,000 approved**

To support operations of the Fisheries Commission to convene the first cultural summer camp in recent years for 20 Haisla youth at Weewanie Wa'wais; complete infrastructure projects in a number of wa'wais and conservancies including continued development of the new Kemano Bay Research Station; complete ecological restoration projects including riparian recovery planting, removal of man-made barriers to fish migration, and fish habitat complexing; and ensuring Nuyems (Haisla traditional laws) are incorporated into all resource management and development decision-making



## **Heiltsuk Tribal Council** Heiltsuk Integrated Resource Management Dept. - 2017 Operations

**\$584,079 approved**

To support operations of the Heiltsuk Integrated Resource Management Department including continued implementation of the Coastal Reconciliation Protocol, a new research initiative focusing on Yagia (kelp) reproduction and growth, research partnerships with Hakai Beach Institute and Simon Fraser University, remediation planning for the 2016 diesel spill in Seaforth Channel, and implementation of new land use orders established under the Great Bear Rainforest Act



## **Homalco First Nation** Infrastructure to Reduce Tourism Impacts on Bear Populations in the Orford River Watershed

**\$18,928 approved**

To implement recommendations from Homalco First Nation's recent conservation science efforts to mitigate the ecological impact of Homalco Wildlife Tours' operations by relocating a viewing tower away from grizzly bear habitat at the confluence of the Orford River and Algard Creek

*Homalco First Nation withdrew this project in early 2018*




**Homalco First Nation**

Orford River and Algard Creek  
Salmon Habitat Restoration -  
2017 Field Work

**\$73,531 approved**

To undertake the first year of a multi-year project to maintain, restore, and enhance fish habitat on the Lower Algard Creek in order to increase salmon abundance for grizzly and black bear populations by preventing further loss of current salmon spawning habitat

*Homalco First Nation withdrew this project in early 2018*


**K'ómoks First Nation**

Guardian Watchmen Program -  
2017/18 Operations

**\$11,550 approved**

To continue implementing the Guardian Watchmen program throughout K'ómoks territory that includes eel grass and salt marsh monitoring, seal and sea lion surveys, stabilization of a river bank to protect a midden and ancestral burial grounds, ongoing contribution to the Ha-ma-yas Stewardship Network, and Level 2 Stewardship Training for Guardian Watchmen with Vancouver Island University


**Kitasoo Band Council**

Resource Stewardship Program -  
2017/18 Operations

**\$650,000 approved**

To support operations of the Resource Stewardship program that includes: research on population dynamics and spatio-temporal distribution of bears across the Nation's territory; a focus on completing protected area management plans for K'ootz, Fiordland, and Smithers Island; expansion of the program with four new positions for referrals management, anthropology, and research projects; and continued funding of youth stewardship development via the Supporting Emerging Aboriginal Stewards (SEAS) program


**Kitselas Band Council**

Tsmdimaas Forest Restoration  
and Workforce Development  
Project - 2017/18 Phase

**\$34,283 approved**

To continue a multi-year conservation workforce development project at Tsmdimaas along the Skeena River that restores successively clear-cut traditional lands and will improve cedar and berry bush growing capability while also building transferable ecosystem restoration skills that will position the Nation to initiate future reclamation projects in northwestern BC


**Kwiah First Nation**

Phillips River Watershed  
- Grizzly Bear Population  
Inventory

**\$10,000 approved**

To continue stewardship initiatives through a scientific survey to develop a population inventory of grizzly bears in the Phillips River watershed based on DNA evidence and remote camera use, thus supporting the Nation's efforts to mitigate further ecological damage within the watershed to prevent extirpation of grizzly bears from Kwiah territory


**Lax Kw'alaams Band**

Fisheries Stewardship Program -  
2017/18 Operations

**\$270,000 approved**

To support operations of the Fisheries Stewardship program, continue juvenile salmonid habitat monitoring in the Skeena estuary and Chatham Sound, monitor and conduct salmonid enumeration in the Toon, Denise, and Stumaun Creek watersheds, continue larval eulachon distribution surveys in Chatham Sound, and initiate an abalone abundance research pilot in Lax Kwaxl Conservancy

# CONSERVATION FUNDING APPROVED IN 2017



## **Nisga'a Lisims Government**

Non-Meziadin River Sockeye  
Salmon Radio Telemetry  
Distribution and Abundance  
Study

**\$153,000 approved**

To sustain and improve the stock status of smaller sockeye salmon runs in the Nass River watershed that do not return to the Meziadin River system by assessing the distribution and abundance of sockeye salmon using radio tags, fixed-monitoring radio-telemetry stations, and aerial tracking along the Ishkheenickh, Ginlulak, Grease Harbour, Cranberry, Meziadin, Bell-Irving/Nass, Bell-Irving/Snowbank, Bowser Lake, Kwinageese/Nass, and Damdochax systems



## **Nisga'a Lisims Government**

Coho Salmon Abundance  
Surveys Across Lower and  
Coastal Nass Systems

**\$20,452 approved**

To improve management and conservation of coho salmon in the Nass River watershed by determining coho escapement in the Portland Canal and Observatory Inlet (Crag and Salmon Cove Creek) and in three systems within the Lower Nass (Ansedagan, Diskangieq, and Zolzap Creek), and combining stream walking and snorkelling surveys while also measuring water property characteristics and spawning habitat quality for each system

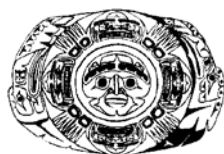


## **Nisga'a Lisims Government**

Marbled Murrelet and Northern  
Goshawk Habitat and Nesting  
Site Studies - 2017 Phase

**\$197,000 approved**

To conduct ground-based surveys, aerial photo interpretation and aerial-based surveys to detect the presence of marbled murrelet and northern goshawk liangi subspecies breeding areas in tributary valleys throughout the Lower Nass River Valley to confirm the presence of nesting sites, thus informing long-term conservation initiatives as well as planning sustainable timber harvesting on Nisga'a Lands



## **Nuxalk Nation**

Nuxalk Fisheries and Bear Field  
Research Infrastructure

**\$200,000 approved**

To construct a new field station for bear and eulachon research programs, complete renovations on the stewardship office equipment storage facility, and repower the Nuxalk fisheries research jet boat



## **Nuxalk Nation**

Guardian Watchmen Monitoring  
and Research Vessel

**\$250,000 approved**

To invest in a new Guardian Watchmen research and monitoring vessel that will enable Nuxalk Stewardship Office staff to increase patrols, implement marine use plans, and improve safety for employees, Elders, and youth



Former Chief Councillor of Wei Wai Kum Nation, Bob Pollard, Councillor Chris Roberts, Thunderbird RV Operations Manager, Sandra Malone, and Band Manager Angie Sarsons at the Thunderbird RV Park in Campbell River.

PHOTO BY  
Coast Funds



# TL'A DEECE

WHERE THE FRESHWATER MEETS THE SALTWATER



"This project really seems to have hit the mark for creating meaningful employment for Wei Wai Kum members. You can see the pride in the work that they do here."

From Wei Wai Kum Nation: Seaside Cottages Boost Tourism in Campbell River, published in the Fall 2017 issue of Talking Stick.

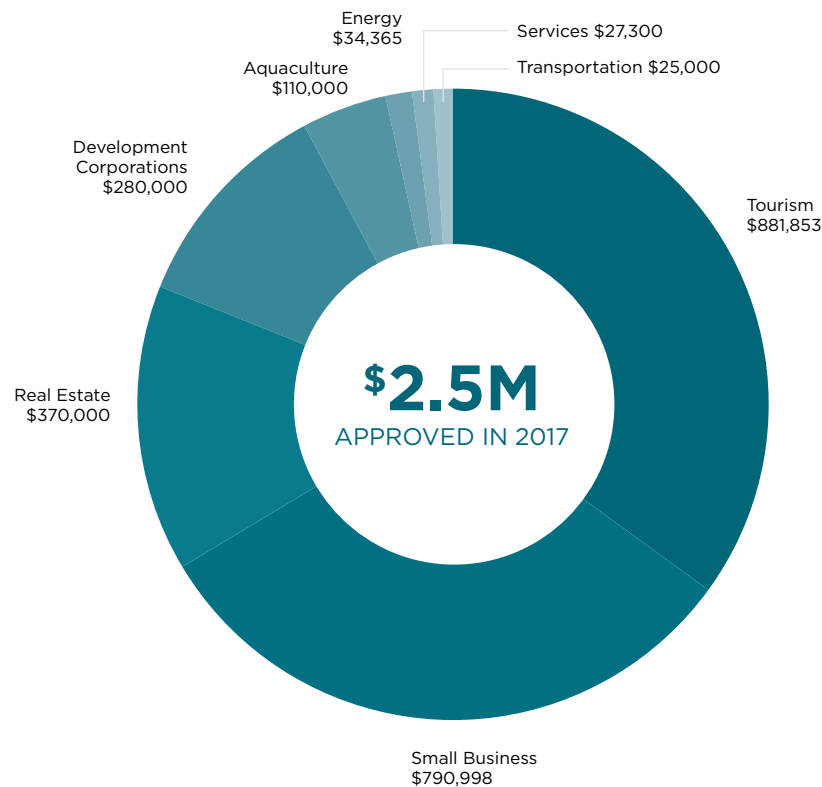
# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FUND

## 2017 Highlights

In 2017, Coast Funds approved \$2,519,516 towards 15 economic development projects. These projects are anticipated to leverage \$10,337,850 in additional funding for total new investments of \$12,857,366. The anticipated long-term outcomes generated by these projects include:

- Creation of three new businesses including the strategic acquisition of an ecotourism company and the expansion of four existing First Nations owned and operated businesses;
- Seven projects dedicated to acquiring or upgrading infrastructure with a total investment from all projects of \$10.7 million into permanent community infrastructure to benefit entrepreneurs and local businesses;
- Creation of 90 permanent jobs including 59 jobs employing First Nations in the region; and
- Support for the operations of organizations that provide 222 permanent jobs, including 150 jobs employing First Nations community members in the region.

### APPROVED ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FUNDING IN 2017





# FUNDING APPROVED IN 2017



**COAST FUNDS**

COAST ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT  
SOCIETY



## **Da'naxda'xw First Nation**

Acquisition of Knight Inlet Lodge

**\$856,453 approved**

To invest in an ownership position of Knight Inlet Lodge—Canada's premier grizzly bear viewing destination—that will support Da'naxda'xw members by providing employment opportunities and skills training, and introduce a cultural component to the business while continuing Knight Inlet Lodge's long tradition of funding environmental initiatives and grizzly bear research



## **Gitanyow Huwilp Society**

Gitanyow Commercial Fishery Asset Purchase

**\$6,573 approved**

To invest in capital assets for the Gitanyow sockeye salmon commercial fishery that will support the 12 seasonal fishers in the community by lowering their fixed start-up costs



## **Gitga'at First Nation**

Acquisition of Prince Rupert Office Building

**\$370,000 approved**

To acquire and renovate a 10,000 square foot commercial space in Prince Rupert to house the Gitga'at First Nation's Development Corporation, Treaty Office, Employment and Training Centre, and a new Elder's centre that will provide greater support for the community members living in the area



## **Gitxaala Nation**

Tyee Building Supplies Store – Predevelopment

**\$40,000 approved**

To finalize the capital planning for an expansion of Gitxaala Nation's Tyee Building Supplies business



## **Heiltsuk Economic Development Corporation**

Heiltsuk Economic Development Corporation - 2017/18 Operations

**\$280,000 approved**

To support operations of the Heiltsuk Economic Development Corporation and its seven subsidiary companies including securing long-term funding for the operations of the Bella Bella Fish Plant, to improve access to capital for entrepreneurs and increase capacity for business managers in Bella Bella



## **Heiltsuk Economic Development Corporation**

Bella Bella Ice House Capital Improvements

**\$110,000 approved**

To invest in capital improvements of the Bella Bella Ice House to attract fishing vessels to the Bella Bella Fish Plant and support local fishers and seafood processing employees in the community



## **Homalco Wildlife Tours Inc.**

Investment in Wildlife Viewing Infrastructure

**\$16,045 approved**

To invest in a new wildlife viewing tower and raised walkway that will reduce human-related impacts on grizzly bear habitat while allowing for an increase in visitor capacity

*Homalco First Nation withdrew this project in early 2018*

# FUNDING APPROVED IN 2017



**Kitasoo Band Council**  
Klemtu Hydropower Plant  
Expansion Plan

**\$34,365 approved**

To assess the viability of increasing the generation capacity of the existing hydropower facility on Baron Lake in order to meet the community's increasing energy demand and curb the use of diesel in power generation



**Kitselas Band Council**  
Capital Improvements at Kitselas  
Canyon National Historic Site

**\$9,355 approved**

To improve the revenue of the Kitselas Canyon National Historic Site by making infrastructure upgrades and aligning these upgrades with a new marketing initiative connected to Canada's 150th anniversary



**North Coast Skeena First  
Nations Stewardship Society**  
Strategic Planning and  
Governance Update

**\$27,300 approved**

To strengthen governance practices by engaging member First Nations to identify strategic priorities for regional resource management and sustainable economic development and updating the Society's bylaws to comply with the new BC Societies Act



**North Coast Skeena First  
Nations Stewardship Society**  
Commercial Marine-based  
Salmon Fishery Pilot Expansion

**\$53,950 approved**

To conduct monitoring, validation, and analysis of the expansion of a First Nations economic salmon fishery in 2018 with North Coast Skeena member Nations, representing an increase in the ownership of the salmon fishery by local First Nations



**Nuxalk Nation**  
Nuxalk Longhouse Restaurant  
Start-up and Training

**\$53,425 approved**

To start a new restaurant in Bella Coola that will showcase Nuxalk culture, invest in a local entrepreneur, and provide employment and skills training for community members seeking employment in tourism and hospitality



**Skidegate Band Council**  
Skidegate Commercial Park  
Construction

**\$469,200 approved**

To service and construct a new, larger grocery co-op at the existing Skidegate quarry site—a site near the BC Ferries terminal with great visibility from the highway—providing additional employment opportunities to Skidegate community members and further leasing opportunities in the future



**Wuikinuxv Nation**  
Wuikinuxv Commercial Fishing  
Vessel Upgrades

**\$167,850 approved**

To invest in replacing aging critical infrastructure for the Western Bounty, a 62-foot aluminum commercial fishing vessel that currently supports 12 seasonal jobs and will foster growth of the community-owned commercial fishery




**Wuikinuxv Nation**  
Rivers Inlet Ground and Freight  
Transportation Investment

**\$ 25,000 approved**

To acquire two 12-passenger vehicles to provide freight service and safe passenger transportation to and from the airstrip and water landing location for community members, visitors, and local businesses in Rivers Inlet





Heiltsuk youth learn about their Nation's traditional fishing practices at the fish weir on the Koeve River.

PHOTO BY

Grant Callegari, Hakai Institute

“We hope that the Koeve River weir can...serve as a powerful example of the creative approaches to resource monitoring and stewardship which can arise from collaborations between First Nations communities and academic scientists.”

Qqs Project Society researchers in a paper on modern stewardship and ancient technology. Working with the Heiltsuk Integrated Resource Management Department, the Qqs Projects Society built a traditional fish weir in the lower Koeve River and then used it to generate a wealth of useful data about salmon health.



# FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

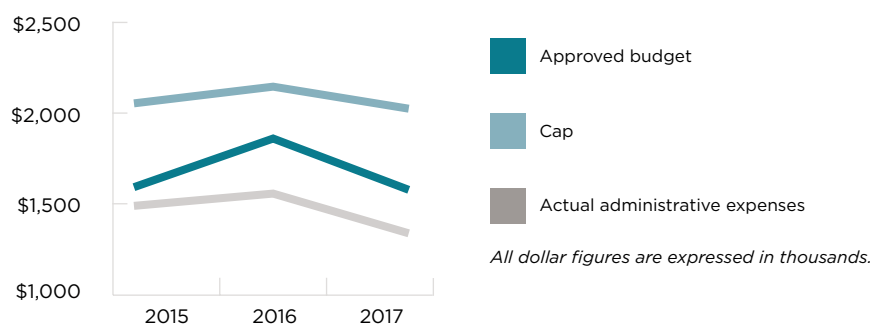
## 2017 Highlights

Coast Funds strives to adhere to best practices in corporate governance while ensuring its operations are efficient and cost effective. In 2017, the following were noted in finance and administration:

1. In 2017, the Coast Economic Development Society (the economic development fund) disbursed \$2.5 million and the Coast Conservation Endowment Fund Foundation (the conservation fund) disbursed \$2.3 million.
2. In 2017, the conservation fund's global equity portfolio performed well relative to its benchmark, thus driving the fund to outperform over the period. The economic development fund is invested significantly more conservatively than the conservation fund (i.e. no global equities and 90% invested in fixed income). Low bond yields detracted from the economic development fund's absolute rate of return over the year, however the economic development fund's return exceeded the benchmark return over the same period. The three-year average annual rates of return for both funds were higher than their benchmark portfolio rates of return.
3. Coast Funds complied with all statutory, regulatory, and governing document agreements, as well as all policies and bylaws. In 2017, the board initiated a process to strengthen the investment managers' screening for socially responsible investments, in accordance with a Coast Funds' governing document (the Conservation Investments and Incentives Agreement, Investment Screens, section 4.1.1).

## Combined Operating Expenses of Both Funds

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 funds. In addition, administration costs have been below budget for each of the three years.







“We’ve been here for  
thousands of years and  
aren’t going anywhere.”

Gitga’at Councillor Cameron Hill at the grand opening of a 10,000 square foot building in Prince Rupert. The building will help the Nation better service its members living in the city and was its first private property purchase.

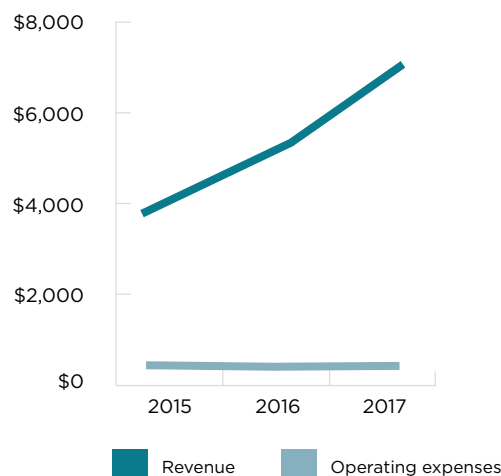
Petroglyph in Gitga’at territory.

PHOTO BY  
Brodie Guy

# CONSERVATION FUND PERFORMANCE

## Results from Operations

In 2017, the excess of revenue over operating expenses was \$6.4 million, an increase of \$1.8 million from the prior year's \$4.6 million. While investment income has been volatile over the last three years, operating expenses remain relatively stable from year to year.

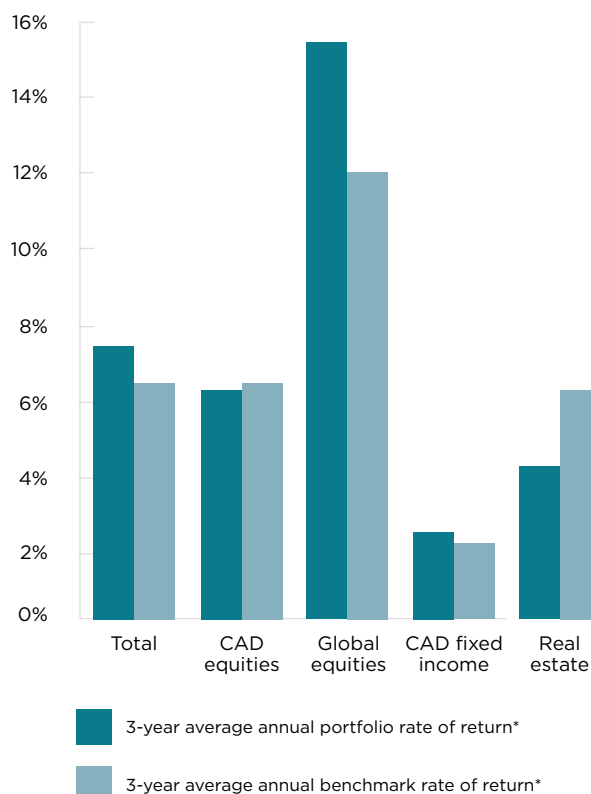


All dollar figures are expressed in thousands.

## Investment Income

The infrastructure fund was added to the conservation fund in 2016, and became fully funded near the end of 2017. The conservation fund's long-term target asset mix is 30% Canadian equities, 25% global equities, 25% fixed income (including 10% in mortgages), 10% real estate, and 10% infrastructure.

In 2017 the overall rate of return was 9.4%, after the deduction of investment management fees. This is a 2.2% increase over the 2016 return. The average annual rate of return for the last three years was 7.3%, which is higher than the benchmark's three-year average annual rate of return of 6.7%.



\*Net of investment management fees

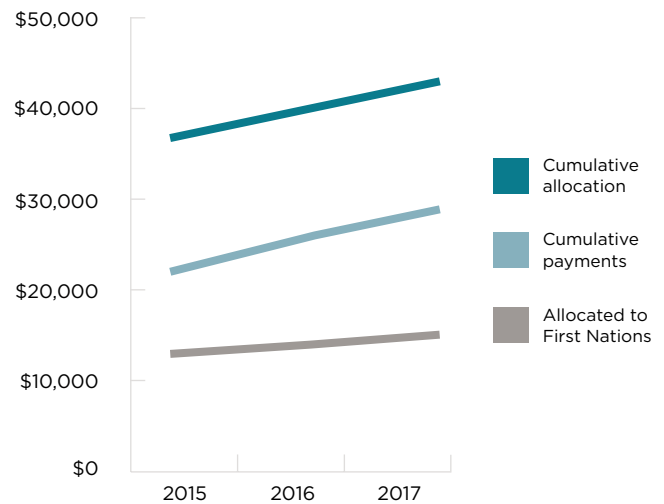




## Annual Allocation of Funds and Disbursement

Although the annual payments to First Nations have generally increased year over year, many First Nations continue to hold allocations for future use. Coast Funds anticipates that the gap between payments out and allocations held will close over the coming years as First Nations continue to build stewardship offices and identify conservation initiatives.

The revenue and regional conservation funds totalled \$23.1 million at December 31, 2017, of which \$15.2 million has been allocated to First Nations but not yet disbursed to approved conservation programs or projects. The remaining balance of \$7.9 million has been set aside for future disbursement, including reserves of \$4.0 million.



*All dollar figures are expressed in thousands.*

### CONSERVATION FUND: YEARLY FUND BALANCES

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Opening Fund Balance	\$2,034	\$58,371	\$64,823	\$68,258	\$66,829	\$69,305	\$73,783	\$75,425	\$73,434	\$74,978
Contributions	\$55,829	\$15	\$4	\$10	\$11	\$13	\$11	\$11	\$10	\$10
Net Investment Income	\$954	\$7,677	\$5,877	\$1,393	\$6,008	\$9,166	\$8,178	\$3,803	\$5,114	\$6,846
Operating Expenses	\$208	\$228	\$316	\$399	\$478	\$427	\$384	\$525	\$495	\$472
Awards Expense	\$238	\$1,012	\$2,130	\$2,433	\$3,065	\$4,275	\$6,163	\$5,278	\$3,085	\$2,370
Closing Fund Balance	\$58,371	\$64,823	\$68,258	\$66,829	\$69,305	\$73,783	\$75,425	\$73,434	\$74,978	\$78,992

*All dollar figures are expressed in thousands.*

# CONSERVATION FUND PERFORMANCE



**COAST  
FUNDS**

COAST CONSERVATION  
ENDOWMENT FUND  
FOUNDATION

## Statement of Financial Position at December 31, 2017

	2017	2016
<b>Assets</b>		
Current assets		
Cash	\$ 2,431,151	\$ 1,050,722
Prepaid expenses	9,635	15,353
Government and other receivables	26,370	40,262
Short-term investments	51,718	83,062
	<u>2,518,874</u>	<u>1,189,399</u>
Property and equipment	12,883	37,361
Intangible asset	38,189	61,103
Investments	78,271,269	75,575,474
	<u>\$ 80,841,215</u>	<u>\$ 76,863,337</u>
<b>Liabilities and Net Assets</b>		
Liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 66,257	\$ 67,755
Due to Society	80,007	165,732
Accrued award distribution	1,702,748	1,651,709
	<u>1,849,012</u>	<u>1,885,196</u>
Net assets		
General	80,987	70,587
Externally restricted		
Revenue fund	22,923,391	18,859,729
Regional conservation planning fund	159,210	219,210
Conservation endowment fund	55,828,615	55,828,615
	<u>78,992,203</u>	<u>74,978,141</u>
	<u>\$ 80,841,215</u>	<u>\$ 76,863,337</u>

## Statement of Operations and Changes in Net Assets at December 31, 2017

	General	Revenue fund	Regional conservation planning fund	Conservation endowment fund	2017 Total	2016 Total
<b>Revenue</b>						
Contributions	\$ 10,400	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10,400	\$ 10,500
Net investment income	-	6,846,034	-	-	6,846,034	5,113,716
	<u>10,400</u>	<u>6,846,034</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,856,434</u>	<u>5,124,216</u>
<b>Expenses</b>						
Administration	-	5,795	-	-	5,795	6,591
Awards	-	2,309,614	60,000	-	2,369,614	3,084,868
Capacity	-	15,790	-	-	15,790	61,500
Cost sharing with the Society	-	241,586	-	-	241,586	349,231
Facilities and equipment	-	152,952	-	-	152,952	50,509
Professional fees	-	56,635	-	-	56,635	27,072
	<u>-</u>	<u>2,782,372</u>	<u>60,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,842,372</u>	<u>3,579,771</u>
<b>Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenses</b>	10,400	4,063,662	-	-	4,014,062	1,544,445
<b>Net assets, beginning of year</b>	70,587	18,859,729	219,210	55,828,615	74,978,141	73,433,696
<b>Net assets, end of year</b>	<u>\$ 80,987</u>	<u>\$ 22,923,391</u>	<u>\$ 159,210</u>	<u>\$ 55,828,615</u>	<u>\$ 78,992,203</u>	<u>\$ 74,978,141</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 AT [www.coastfunds.ca/resources/annual-reports/](http://www.coastfunds.ca/resources/annual-reports/)



“We wanted to see if we could build on the return of the bears and create an opportunity to invite the world in to enjoy the wildlife that was now thriving there.”

Alison Trenholm, Director of Governance for the Homalco First Nation. Homalco Wildlife Tours continues to run a low-impact wildlife viewing and cultural experience business in their territory.

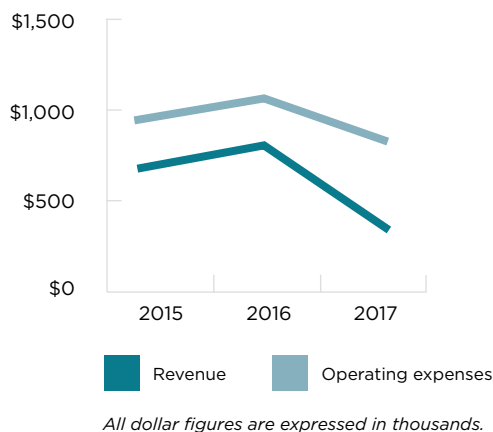


Grizzly bear in Homalco territory.  
PHOTO BY  
Brodie Guy

# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FUND PERFORMANCE

## Results from Operations

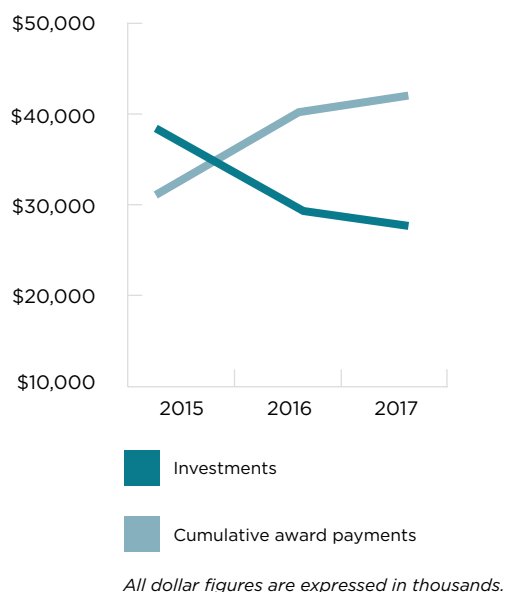
In 2017, the deficiency of revenue over operating expenses was \$0.5 million, an increase of \$0.3 million from the \$0.2 million deficit in the prior year. The nominal returns in 2017 resulted from the majority of the portfolio invested in lower-return fixed income assets. Operating expenses declined by \$0.2 million against the prior year.



## Investment and Investment Income

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

Over the past three years, earnings from equities have been relatively volatile; Canadian equity returns were positive in 2017 and 2016, and negative in 2015. Interest rates rose throughout 2017, with the Canadian bond portfolio providing a nominal return for the period. The target allocation of the Society's investments is 90% fixed income (including 23.3% in mortgages) and 10% Canadian equities, so the weighted average rate of return closely aligns with the returns earned on the fixed income investments.

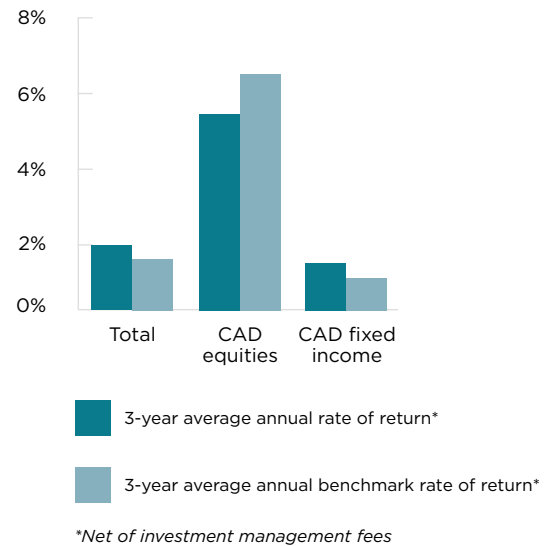






In 2017 the overall rate of return was 1.3%, after the deduction of investment management fees. This is a decrease against the 2016 return of 3.2%. The average annual rate of return for the last three years was 1.9%, which is higher than the benchmark's three-year average annual return of 1.6%.

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



### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FUND: YEARLY FUND BALANCES

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Opening Fund Balance	\$61,054	\$61,669	\$63,245	\$60,222	\$55,967	\$50,456	\$47,102	\$41,659	\$35,849	\$26,720
Contributions	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Net Investment Income	\$1,885	\$4,536	\$2,879	\$1,441	\$1,328	\$1,592	\$1,894	\$643	\$871	\$331
Operating Expenses	\$471	\$828	\$927	\$968	\$1,235	\$1,014	\$975	\$974	\$1,069	\$872
Awards Expense	\$799	\$2,132	\$4,975	\$4,728	\$5,605	\$3,932	\$6,362	\$5,479	\$8,931	\$860
Closing Fund Balance	\$61,669	\$63,245	\$60,222	\$55,967	\$50,456	\$47,102	\$41,659	\$35,849	\$26,720	\$25,319

All dollar figures are expressed in thousands.

The decrease in awards expensed in 2017 was attributed to timing differences, compared with awards expensed in the prior year. On a three-year basis, the economic development fund continues to expense awards at a rate comparable to historic levels, despite ongoing reductions to the annual opening fund balance.

# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FUND PERFORMANCE

## Statement of Financial Position at December 31, 2017

	2017	2016
<b>Assets</b>		
Current assets		
Cash	\$ 1,741,182	\$ 1,317,566
Short-term investments	4,685,363	5,385,012
Due from the Foundation	80,007	165,732
Prepaid expenses	5,305	8,454
	<u>6,511,857</u>	<u>6,876,764</u>
Investments	20,072,864	22,717,567
Property and equipment	4,348	6,269
	<u>\$ 26,589,069</u>	<u>\$ 29,600,600</u>
<b>Liabilities and Net Assets</b>		
Current liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 116,904	\$ 98,499
Accrued award distribution	1,153,578	2,782,239
	<u>1,270,482</u>	<u>2,880,738</u>
Net assets		
Externally restricted		
Federal revenue fund	6,721,633	9,662,616
Regional economic development planning fund	274,918	274,918
Federal economic development fund	18,322,036	16,782,328
	<u>25,318,587</u>	<u>26,719,862</u>
	<u>\$ 26,589,069</u>	<u>\$ 29,600,600</u>

## Statement of Operations and Changes in Net Assets at December 31, 2017

	Federal revenue fund	Regional economic development planning fund	Federal economic development fund	2017 Total	2016 Total
<b>Revenue</b>					
Net investment income	\$ 331,659	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 331,659	\$ 870,920
<b>Expenses</b>					
Administration	97,744	-	-	97,744	62,094
Awards	-	-	860,292	860,292	8,931,299
Board expenses	108,049	-	-	108,049	154,848
Capacity and support services	6,500	-	-	6,500	123,000
Communications	28,203	-	-	28,203	30,594
Facilities and equipment	43,680	-	-	43,680	108,746
Personnel	708,742	-	-	708,742	830,274
Professional fees	121,310	-	-	121,310	108,760
	<u>1,114,228</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>860,292</u>	<u>1,974,520</u>	<u>10,349,615</u>
Recovery from the Foundation	(241,586)	-	-	(241,586)	(349,231)
	<u>872,642</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>860,292</u>	<u>1,732,934</u>	<u>10,000,384</u>
<b>Deficiency of revenue over expenses</b>	<u>(540,983)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(860,292)</u>	<u>(1,401,275)</u>	<u>(9,129,464)</u>
<b>Net assets, beginning of year</b>	9,662,616	274,918	16,782,328	26,719,862	35,849,326
<b>Interfund transfer</b>	(2,400,000)	-	2,400,000	-	-
<b>Net assets, end of year</b>	<u>\$ 6,721,633</u>	<u>\$ 274,918</u>	<u>\$ 18,322,036</u>	<u>\$ 25,318,587</u>	<u>\$ 26,719,862</u>

FINANCIAL INFORMATION EXTRACTED FROM THE AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF COAST ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SOCIETY.  
A COMPLETE COPY OF THE AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS IS AVAILABLE AT [www.coastfunds.ca/resources/annual-reports/](http://www.coastfunds.ca/resources/annual-reports/)



## Funders

Initially capitalized with \$118 million provided by six private foundations, the Province of British Columbia, and the Government of Canada, Coast Funds is comprised of two separate organizations.

**COAST  
FUNDS**COAST CONSERVATION  
ENDOWMENT FUND  
FOUNDATION

- The Nature Conservancy
- The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation
- The Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation
- David and Lucile Packard Foundation
- The Rockefeller Brothers Fund
- Tides Canada Foundation

**COAST  
FUNDS**COAST ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT  
SOCIETY

- Government of Canada
- Province of British Columbia

## Members

Coast Funds' Members represent the interests of the original funders and the eligible First Nations communities. The Members convene once a year at an annual general meeting of the Foundation and Society.

**Dallas Smith**

President, Nanwakolas Council

**Ross McMillan**

President and Chief Executive Officer,  
Tides Canada Foundation

**Neilane Mayhew**

Associate Deputy Minister, Ministry of  
Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation,  
Province of British Columbia

**Ernest Swanson**

Entrepreneur, Haida Nation (Non-Voting)

**Marilyn Slett**

President, Coastal First Nations  
(Great Bear Initiative Society)

**Jenny Brown**

Director of Conservation Programs, TNC Canada

**Craig Sutherland**

Assistant Deputy Minister, Coast Area,  
Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource  
Operations and Rural Development,  
Province of British Columbia

**Robert Grodecki**

Executive Director, North Coast Skeena First  
Nations Stewardship Society (Non-Voting)

# WHO WE ARE

## Board of Directors

Coast Funds' Board of Directors is responsible for governance of the conservation and economic development funds, reporting to the Members.



**Merv Child** (Chair) is a 1994 graduate of the University of Victoria Law School and was called to the British Columbia Bar in 1995. He has practised in the areas of administrative and aboriginal law. He serves as the Executive Director for the Nanwakolas Council, a Campbell River-based society of seven First Nations addressing land and resource issues and related economic development opportunities.



**Percy Crosby** (Vice Chair) represents Skidegate at the Haida House as an elected official for the Council of the Haida Nation, and represents the Haida Nation on the Haida Gwaii Management Council. 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 of BC. In all positions, he has used his knowledge of Haida law and cultural values, Haida Gwaii geography and history, and provincial laws and practices.



**Sage Berryman** is the Chief Operating Officer of the Ralmax Group of Companies. Prior to this Sage founded a number of companies with the intent to bring impact-based businesses into the areas that needed them the most. Before becoming an entrepreneur she was the West Coast General Manager and Senior Managing Director with a global management consulting company called FTI Consulting working in San Francisco. 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 in international business from Queen's University. She serves on three corporate boards and is an active mentor and advisor for numerous entrepreneurs and their businesses.



**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 and Political Science; and a Bachelor of Arts from Simon Fraser University.





**Darcy 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** was born and raised on Vancouver Island, and lives in Metchosin. He has a Bachelor of Arts from the University of BC and a Master of Business Administration from Harvard. He worked for over 20 years in the provincial government, including Ministry of Environment and BC Parks. In the Central Coast process from 2002, he was the provincial Table representative and provincial negotiator with First Nations in 2004 and 2005. Since 2006 he has worked on ecosystem-based management implementation with the Nanwakolas Council. In 2008, he was ordained as a deacon in the Anglican church.



**Larry Greba** has extensive experience and training in the field of fisheries, oceans and economic development. He has worked with 25 First Nations communities and organizations throughout British Columbia over the past 31 years, primarily in wild fisheries enhancement, conservation, management, finfish and shellfish aquaculture, policy development, strategic planning and negotiation. He has worked closely with the Kitasoo/Xai'xais Nation, Central Coast Indigenous Resources Alliance, the First Nations Fisheries Council, and the Coastal First Nations-Great Bear Initiative, and has represented the interests of many of these organizations on a myriad of boards and committees. He has developed and serves as a managing director of several Kitasoo Band businesses.



**Chris Trumpy** has more than 30 years of experience in public service. He 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. He currently sits on the boards of Puget Sound Energy, Coast Capital Savings Credit Union, and Pacific Sport Victoria.



**Bruce Watkinson** is a member of the Gitxaala First Nation and currently works for the Gitxaala Nation as the Fisheries Manager/Marine Program Coordinator. He obtained his Bachelor's degree in Biology from the University of Victoria in 1998. He has over 15 years of experience in resource management, fisheries research, strategic planning, and capacity-building. He has served on many local committees and boards representing First Nation interests on the North Coast, and was previously the Executive Director of the North Coast - Skeena First Nations Stewardship Society for a five-year term.

# WHO WE ARE

## Staff

Coast Funds' staff team works closely with First Nations, oversees the funds' financial performance, liaises with funders, and leads organizational initiatives.



### **Brodie Guy, Executive Director**

Brodie has held leadership positions in the environmental technology sector, with not-for-profits, and in government. As Coast Funds' Executive Director, Brodie leads a dedicated team working in close partnership with First Nations on conservation financing for stewardship and guardian programs, collaborating with the board of directors to develop and realize the organization's strategic objectives, and guiding the funds' investments into sustainable development projects throughout coastal British Columbia. He has served as British Columbia's liaison to the World Bank and prior to joining Coast Funds, co-invested into First Nations' projects while with Northern Development Initiative Trust, a \$250 million rural development fund. In that role, Brodie invested to diversify local economies in response to the climate change-related devastation of BC's forests by the Mountain Pine Beetle. Previously, Brodie worked with the US EPA and Fortune 500 companies while leading international marketing for a water treatment and groundwater remediation technology company that protected and restored oceans, lakes, rivers and aquifers. Brodie received his Bachelor's degree in commerce from the University of Victoria where he concentrated on sustainable entrepreneurship and environmental economics.



### **Ashley Hardill, Director, Project Investment**

As Director, Project Investments, Ashley works with First Nations to develop sustainable economic development projects. In this role, Ashley provides support for business and financial planning, financial reporting, and outcome measurement. Ashley holds a Masters in Resource and Environmental Management and is a designated Chartered Professional Accountant. Prior to joining Coast Funds, she worked as Finance Manager for Engineers Without Borders Canada providing financial support for their programming and venture work in Canada and Africa. Ashley has also worked as a public accountant, mainly working with non-profit organizations and charities. She also has experience in education, teaching courses on sustainable community development, entrepreneurship, and financial management.



### **Paul Plater, Director, Finance**

As Director, Finance, Paul leads all aspects of Coast Funds' financial operations. Paul works closely with the Executive Director and board to oversee the financial stewardship of Coast Funds, its management of socially responsible investments, strategic projects, and the timely disbursement of funding to First Nations. Paul brings over 25 years of diverse and progressive accounting experience to his position with Coast Funds. He most recently served in a senior financial role with the Indian Residential Schools Survivors Society. Previously, he held management and senior roles with major public accounting firms, the BC Securities Commission, MacMillan Bloedel, and other Canadian companies. Paul is able to draw on his professional experience to support local arts and non-profit communities. He currently maintains financial operations for Catriona Jeffries, a contemporary art gallery in Vancouver. Paul holds a Bachelor of Business Administration with a concentration in accounting from Simon Fraser University and holds both the CPA, CA designation in Canada and the CPA (Illinois) designation.





**Lydia Liew, Financial Administrator**

As Financial Administrator, Lydia is responsible for effective and accurate accounting to support the entire team as they work with First Nations to invest funds in conservation and sustainable development throughout Great Bear Rainforest and Haida Gwaii communities. Lydia has eleven years of accounting experience in the not-for-profit sector. Prior to joining Coast Funds, she worked for the YMCA of Greater Vancouver to strengthen local communities. Lydia has a diploma in business administration with a focus in accounting. She enjoys continuing to support BC communities in her role at Coast Funds.



**Serena Innes, Executive Administrator**

As Executive Administrator, Serena supports First Nations as they apply for and report on conservation funding to ensure First Nations receive timely disbursement of funding for their initiatives. Additionally, Serena provides administrative support to the Executive Director, Board, and Members as a key element of Coast Funds' strong governance practices. Serena brings over twenty years of progressive experience to Coast Funds most recently as the Executive Assistant to the CEO of Garibaldi Glass. Prior to joining Garibaldi Glass she worked at Blueshore Financial, a North Vancouver-based credit union, where she worked with four Senior Vice Presidents, in increasingly strategic roles, for more than six years. Serena also served as a key member in the office of the CEO of the BC 2010 Olympic Games Secretariat. She grew up in Powell River, BC and is passionate about the environment and conservation in protected areas such as the Great Bear Rainforest and Haida Gwaii. Serena and her family spend most of their free time outdoors enjoying all that British Columbia has to offer.



**Laura Hope, Communications Specialist**

As Communication Specialist, Laura works with First Nations to share the knowledge, experience, and stories of their development and conservation projects. Prior to joining Coast Funds, she worked as a communicator for several non-profit organizations including, most recently, Sierra Club BC and the David Suzuki Foundation. Her work focused on finding ways of engaging diverse audiences with complex environmental issues. She has completed her Bachelor of Arts, Certificate in Film Arts, and a Master of Arts in Professional Communication. She is thrilled to be working with the passionate team at Coast Funds to strengthen community well-being and conservation efforts in the Great Bear Rainforest and Haida Gwaii.



**Chris Earle,**  
**Director of Finance**  
Retired



**Andrea Harrison,**  
**Accountant and**  
**Personnel Administrator**  
Retired



# COAST FUNDS

750 — 475 West Georgia Street Vancouver, BC V6B 4M9  
604 684 0223 [info@coastfunds.ca](mailto:info@coastfunds.ca)

FIND OUT MORE AT:

**[coastfunds.ca](http://coastfunds.ca)**



[Facebook.com/CoastFunds](https://Facebook.com/CoastFunds)



[@coastfunds](https://twitter.com/coastfunds)