





# The Sharing Farm

CABBAGES  
BEETS  
CHARD  
PEPPERS  
EGGPLANT  
POTATOES



# HERE'S WHAT THE SHARING FARM SHARED IN 2020



11,520 LBS  
donated to Richmond Food Bank.



2,880 LBS  
of food in harvest baskets  
donated directly to families.

## 14,440 LBS TOTAL FARM PRODUCE DONATED

During the growing season, Sharing Farm vegetables are on the plates of up to 2,000 people a week.

## Executive Director's Report

*On behalf of the Board of Directors of The Sharing Farm Society and our dedicated staff, it is my privilege to thank you — our members, volunteers, donors, sponsors and supporters — for helping The Sharing Farm grow and deliver healthy food to our neighbours in need. I particularly want to acknowledge the tremendous support we receive from the City of Richmond; their backing makes this organization possible.*

*2020 was a tumultuous year for everyone. However, despite all the upheaval we were fortunate to have a good year. Our wonderful new farmer, Melad, rose to the challenge. Leslie, who is now the farm's Director of Operations, really stepped up to make sure that the transition went smoothly through the turmoil. Pauline, our Volunteer Coordinator, was able to safely and calmly manage 114 volunteers over the course of the year. We were fortunate to have a really strong field team. Walker, a Field Intern in 2018 and 2019, returned as Field Assistant, and Megan, our Events Intern in 2018, joined us again as a Field Intern. They were joined by four new Field Interns: Ari, Bronwyn, Emma, and Monty. The crew rolled up their sleeves and got their hands dirty, and then got them really clean again with endless sanitation!*

*Thanks to everyone's hard work and dedication we were able to donate 14,440 lbs of produce to the Richmond Food Bank and directly to families through donated Harvest Baskets. The pandemic has really thrown a spotlight on the importance of food security, and we are proud that we were able to keep operating through a time when we were needed more than ever.*

*Within this report you will read about the projects and events of 2020; learn more about the organizations we collaborated with to bring some innovative ideas to fruition; meet the generous funders and donors who supported our work; and hear about how we raised and spent the funds to fulfill our mission.*

Sarah Drewery  
Executive Director

# EVENTS & DEVELOPMENTS



## New Farm Manager

Melad Charkharbi moved to BC and into the role of Farm Manager in February 2020, just before the world turned upside down. Despite all the uncertainties and difficulties of 2020, Melad masterfully managed his first growing season at The Sharing Farm and we're so glad to have him as part of the team. Melad came to us from Everdale Farm, a Community Teaching Farm in Hillsburgh, Ontario, where he had been farming for five seasons. Kristjan Johannson, Farm Manager since 2015, moved on to new fields in Langley.

## New Director Of Operations

2020 saw Leslie step up to a new role as Director of Operations. Leslie is our longest serving staff member, starting at The Sharing Farm in 2012, after she graduated from Richmond Farm School at KPU. She manages a wide range of tasks, including coordinating produce distribution and donations, hiring and overseeing staff, organizing volunteers, and working closely with the Farm Manager to make sure everything keeps running smoothly. She continues as well in her role as the Farm's Beekeeper.



## Sponsored Harvest Baskets

During the pandemic we had a record number of sponsored baskets. These baskets were donated to 50 families, every week throughout the growing season. We also expanded on our partnership with the BC Muslim Association, which delivered many of these baskets directly to people's houses. Thank you to Nicola Wealth, Staub Electronics, TD Canada Trust, Lions Club Richmond, Change Healthcare and the Vancouver Foundation for making this possible.

## Increased Interest in Local Produce

An unexpected but welcome side effect of the pandemic was a marked rise in interest in local agriculture and fresh produce. We sold 40% more of our Harvest Baskets than ever before and sold out two months earlier than usual. We also had good success with attending the Kwantlen St. Farmers Market in the late fall and starting up our new online store. Thank you so much to everyone who purchased our honey, garlic and other veggies. You're all helping us to fulfill our mission!



# OUR VALUED VOLUNTEERS

GET DIRTY. LEAVE WITH GREAT STORIES.



## Individuals Giving Back

As a community farm, The Sharing Farm leans heavily on the generous support of hundreds of people who help with their hands, passion, intelligence, skill and heart. The Sharing Farm's Board of Directors and staff are indebted to the 114 volunteers who were so essential to The Sharing Farm's success in 2020. We have immense gratitude for all who volunteered!

### INDIVIDUAL VOLUNTEERS

Total: 75

Estimated volunteer hours: 1,395

### GROUP VOLUNTEERS

Total group volunteers: 39

Estimated volunteer hours: 117

Although we stopped accepting corporate group volunteers in the initial stages of the pandemic, we did reopen later in the year. Four corporate groups donated their time and enthusiasm in 2020. We hope to welcome more volunteer groups back to the farm in 2021.



# SPECIAL PROJECTS



## Volunteers Carried On

Although early in the year we closed volunteering at the farm, it soon became apparent that volunteering outside was one of the safest activities people could take part in. By limiting the number of volunteers per shift, and mandating masks and physical distancing, we were delighted to safely welcome a number of community members onto the farm. Volunteers are so important to us and we are very appreciative that so many of you could help us out, even in the midst of a pandemic. We are also thankful to **United Way of the Lower Mainland** for helping to fund the program.

## Online Classes

The ban on gatherings meant our planned workshops could not go ahead as usual. However, we were able to offer a number of online vegetable growing workshops and cooking workshops to breach the gap. We acknowledge the financial support of the **Province of British Columbia**.



## Richmond Garlic Fest **Cancelled!** Garlic Sold Online

Naturally, a 6000 person garlic festival was not possible in 2020 and we were left with hundreds of pounds of garlic to sell. Luckily the pandemic did not quash people's love of garlic, and we successfully sold our stock online. We did miss the Garlic Fest though and are looking forward to holding it again as soon as we're able.

## Nicola Wealth

We would like to give a special thank you to our farmland sponsor, Nicola Wealth. When things were at their most uncertain, Nicola Wealth donated an additional \$5000, on top of their customary annual \$10,000 donation. In such a difficult and stressful time this gave the farm some security and hope. We are so grateful for their ongoing support.

## SHARING FARM ENTERPRISE INITIATIVES

In 2020, The Sharing Farm continued to develop our social enterprise program in order to build a reliable revenue stream to support our mission. This included the following:

### Harvest Baskets

Weekly baskets for 17 weeks.

100 Harvest Baskets shares sold.

In 2020 we opened a new pick-up point for our Harvest Baskets in East Vancouver, allowing us to introduce The Sharing Farm to a whole new community.

### Honey

Produced and sold 480 pounds of honey.

### Online Store

2020 saw us sell our produce online in many new ways. As we were unable to sell garlic and honey at the (cancelled) Richmond Garlic Fest, we sold these products online instead. In November we also piloted a general online produce store, selling storage crops like roots and winter squash, alongside fresh greens from our greenhouses.

### Farmers Markets

The Sharing Farm attended four of Kwantlen St. Market's winter markets. The number of folks who turned out, braving the wind and rain for fresh produce, pleasantly surprised us. Thank you for supporting us!

# SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM



For the seventh year, The Sharing Farm offered a three-tier sponsorship program for individuals and companies to contribute to The Sharing Farm and provide healthy local food to low-income families.

## Sponsorship Levels

### Neighbour Basket

Sponsor partners provide a weekly neighbourhood basket of fresh vegetables to a low-income family in need.

### Bee Hive

In addition to a neighbour basket, the partner sponsors two sustainably-managed bee hives and contributes to apiary maintenance. This level assists with purchasing necessary equipment, providing regular inspections for hive health, and ensuring the bees have adequate forage.

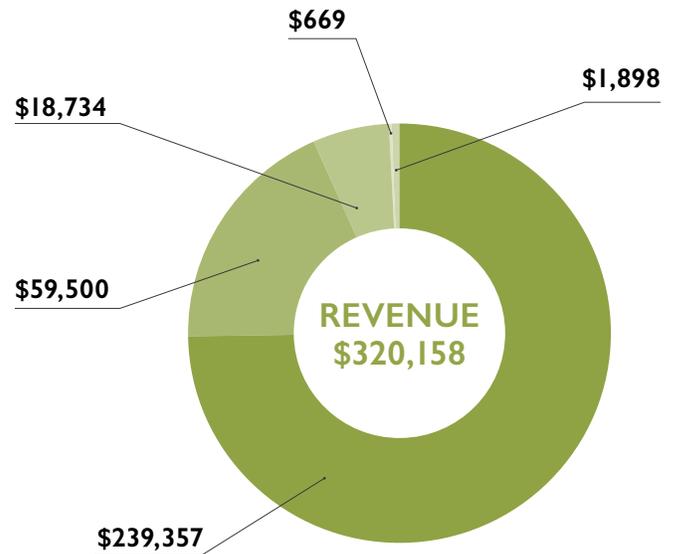
### Farm Land

In addition to a neighbour basket, and sponsoring two beehives, this level supports an acre of organically grown vegetables—for donation to the Richmond Food Bank.

# FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

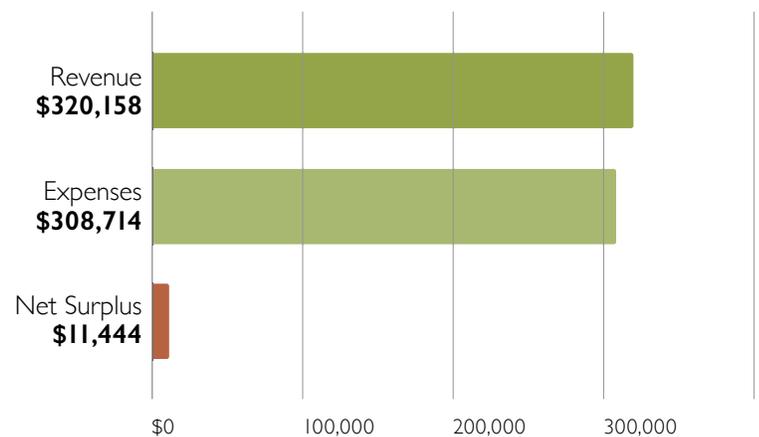
## Revenue Detail 2020

Grants, Donations, Sponsorships	\$239,357
Harvest Baskets	\$59,500
Produce Sales	\$18,734
Programs and Workshops	\$669
Other	\$1,898
<b>Revenue</b>	<b>\$320,158</b>



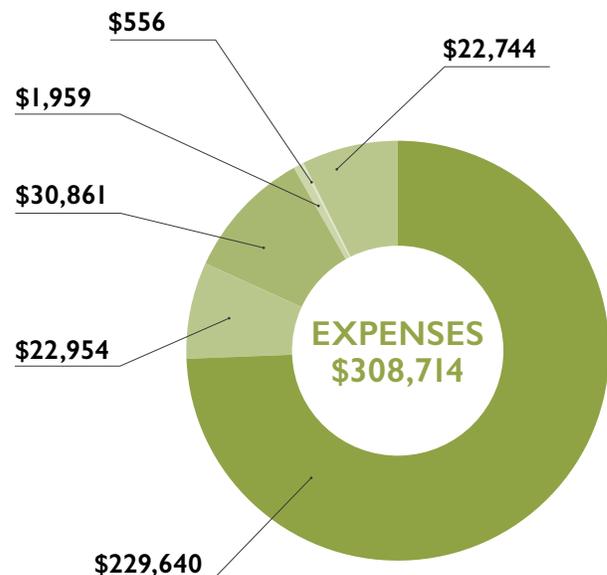
## Income Statement 2020

Revenue	\$320,158
Expenses	\$308,714
<b>Net surplus</b>	<b>\$11,444</b>



## Expense Detail 2020

Salaries and Wages	\$229,640
General and Administration	\$22,954
Farm Supplies	\$30,861
Project Costs	\$1,959
Programs and workshops	\$556
Non-cash Expenses	\$22,744
<b>Expenses</b>	<b>\$308,714</b>



# THE PEOPLE WHO MAKE IT HAPPEN

## Board of Directors

**Ed Sin**  
*Chair*  
Digital Transformation, Stork  
Craft Manufacturing, Inc.

**Doris Bruce**  
*Chair (From Nov 2020)*  
Retired Registered Nurse

**Robert King, CPA, CMA**  
*Treasurer*  
Retired

**Sheilagh Pace**  
*Secretary*  
Retired Principal

**Edith Lee**  
*Member at Large*  
(Retired from Board, Sep 2020)

**Adrian Lazar**  
*Member at Large*  
Managing Partner,  
Lazar Consulting

**Tyler Pronyk**  
*Member at Large*  
Principal, Tyler Allen  
Consulting Inc.

## Staff



**Sarah Drewery**  
*Executive Director*



**Leslie Williams**  
*Director of Operations*



**Melad Charkhabi**  
*Farm Manager*



**Pauline Torrontegui**  
*Volunteer Coordinator*



**Walker Hathaway-Williams**  
*Field Assistant*

## Summer Interns

**Top row left to right:** Bronwyn Neufeld | Montserrat (Monty) Lussow | Megan Stewart  
**Bottom Row left to right:** Ariana Getzlaf | Emma Sawatzky



# FUNDERS

## 2020 GRANTORS

City of Richmond  
BC Gaming Corporation  
United Way of the Lower Mainland  
Government of Canada  
Richmond Community Foundation  
Vancouver Foundation  
YVR  
TD Parks People

## SPONSORS

Neighbourhood Basket Level – \$1,000

Staub Electronics (2 baskets)  
Change Healthcare  
Richmond Lions Club

Bee Hive Level – \$5,000

TD Canada Trust

Farm Land Level – \$15,000 Donors

Nicola Wealth

## DONORS

Accent Inns  
Intact Insurance  
Teldon  
Westcoast Seeds  
Worksafe BC Helping Hands



# THANK YOU

TO OUR CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY  
VOLUNTEER GROUPS

Elite Wealth Management  
Salesforce  
SAP Canada  
Traction Guest





**THE SHARING FARM SOCIETY**

2771 Westminster Hwy, Richmond, BC V7C 1A8  
(604) 227-6210

[www.sharingfarm.ca](http://www.sharingfarm.ca)