

# THE SHARING FARM

## ANNUAL REPORT 2022



The Sharing Farm is located on the traditional, ancestral and unceded Coast Salish territories of the xʷməθkʷəyəm (Musqueam) people. We are grateful to live, work, farm, and play on these lands and waters.

### FULFILLING OUR VISION

Healthy local produce for all, through sustainable farming and community engagement.



#### Mission

We grow food and community through farming, to advance food security, reconnect people to agriculture, and champion sustainable food systems.

#### Values

The Sharing Farm values ecological stewardship, positive action and collaboration. The Sharing Farm embraces empowerment and inclusiveness, and acts with respect, gratitude and integrity.

#### Stewards of the Land

The Sharing Farm practices sustainable agriculture, to protect our natural environment and allow future generations to farm on this land. Adding compost improves soil health, and cover crops prevent erosion and soil compaction. We use crop rotation to reduce pests and disease, as well as the need for pesticides. We also use drip irrigation and mulch to help conserve water.

The Sharing Farm honey bees are managed using sustainable practices, ensuring bees have access to good forage and retain honey in the hives to promote winter survival. Native pollinators are supported through forage plantings and hedgerows.

#### A Bit of History

In the late 1990s there was very little fresh produce available for clients of food banks. Mary Gazetas and several of her friends founded the Sharing Farm, in order to provide healthy food for community members facing food-insecurity. This vision continues today. The Sharing Farm annually donates on average 20,000 pounds of fresh produce to the Richmond Food Bank, community meal programs, and directly to food-insecure families. We also run numerous social enterprises to help support our charitable work. Community members are able to purchase our sustainably grown local produce through our CSA (Community Supported Agriculture) Harvest Basket program, a Farm Stand, farmers markets and an online store.



## HERE'S WHAT THE SHARING FARM SHARED IN 2022



**19,339 LBS: TOTAL PRODUCE DONATED  
TO THE RICHMOND FOOD BANK,  
OR DIRECTLY TO FAMILIES VIA HARVEST BASKETS  
& COMMUNITY MEAL PROGRAMS**

During the growing season, Sharing Farm vegetables are on the plates of up to 2,200 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 volunteers, donors, members, sponsors and supporters—for helping the Sharing Farm grow and deliver healthy local food to people facing food insecurity in our community. I particularly want to acknowledge the tremendous support we receive from the City of Richmond; their backing makes this organization possible.*

*This year saw numerous transitions. I became Executive Director after Sarah Drewery resigned, and Sarah took on the new role of Richmond Garlic Fest Director. After a two year pandemic hiatus, we held the 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Richmond Garlic Fest, which was our most successful event yet.*

*Thanks to everyone's hard work and dedication we were able to donate 19,339 pounds of produce to the Richmond Food Bank as well as directly to families through sponsored Harvest Baskets and community meal programs. According to our colleagues at the Richmond Food Bank, food insecurity continues to increase under the dual pressures of the refugee crisis and severe inflation, not to mention the very high cost of living in the Lower Mainland. Our work continues to contribute meaningfully to the lives of many.*

*Thanks to all of you in our community who attended our events, purchased our produce, donated time or money, spread the word about our work, and helped us get that work done.*

Leslie Williams  
Executive Director



# EVENTS & DEVELOPMENTS

# OUR VALUED VOLUNTEERS GET DIRTY. LEAVE WITH GREAT STORIES.



## Individuals & Groups Giving Back

As a community farm, the Sharing Farm leans heavily on the generous support of hundreds of people who help with their hands, backs, passion, intelligence, skill and heart. The Sharing Farm's Board of Directors and staff are indebted to the 330 volunteers who were so essential to the Sharing Farm's success in 2022. We are so grateful to all who volunteered!

### Executive Director Transition

In June, Leslie Williams was appointed the Farm's Executive Director, following the resignation of Sarah Drewery. Leslie has had extensive experience in a wide range of roles during her ten years at the Farm, most recently as Director of Operations. She is passionate about sustainable agriculture and food security.

### Richmond Garlic Fest Resumes!

The 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Richmond Garlic Fest was held on August 13, 2022. Sarah Drewery, outgoing Executive Director, moved into a new position as Richmond Garlic Fest Director. Approximately five thousand people attended, and the event raised \$49,570. We're looking forward to the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Garlic Fest, happening on August 20, 2023!



### INDIVIDUAL VOLUNTEERS

Total: 150  
Estimated volunteer hours: 2,315

### GROUP VOLUNTEERS

Total group volunteers: 180  
Estimated volunteer hours: 493

Corporate group volunteer teams provided immense help this year, particularly in harvesting and processing thousands of pounds of bok choy, carrots, potatoes, and beets for donation. Eighteen corporate groups donated their time, enthusiasm and hard work in 2022.

### Interpretive Signage

Signs are now visible throughout the Farm, educating about such topics as Sustainable Agriculture, Climate Change and Agriculture, Local Food, Pollinators, and the History and Mission of the Sharing Farm. In addition, signs are placed in the field to identify what crops are growing, along with some specific information about each crop. This project was supported by the **Richmond Community Foundation**, **TD Friends of the Environment**, and the **Metro Vancouver Agricultural Awareness Fund**.

### New Equipment

Thanks to grants from the **Richmond Community Foundation** and the **Community Gaming** grant, we were able to improve both efficiency and ergonomics, through the purchase of a range of much-needed equipment, including a root washer (pictured here with our lovely rainbow carrots), pallet forks, and two jab transplanters.



# COMMUNITY EVENTS

## 12<sup>th</sup> Annual RICHMOND GARLIC FEST

This year's Richmond Garlic Fest had a bustling market, sustainable agriculture workshops, amazing live music, delicious food, diverse vendors, bird-of-prey demonstrations run by the City of Richmond Nature Park team, and lots and lots of garlic.



## COBB OVEN EVENTS

Our popular Cobb Oven meals happened twice in 2022, with Chef Nav Sidhu baking her outstanding Indian flatbreads and pizzas for an appreciative crowd, including many volunteers and CSA members. These free events were made possible by the City of Richmond's Neighbourhood Celebration Grant.



## Workshops

We held a wide variety of workshops, covering topics from mason bees to natural dyes, native plants to owl behaviors, mushroom foraging to microgreens.



# THE PEOPLE WHO MAKE IT HAPPEN

## Board of Directors

**Doris Bruce**  
*Chair*  
Retired Registered Nurse

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

**Sheilagh Pace**  
*Secretary*  
Retired Principal

**Ed Sin**  
*Member at Large*  
Information Technology, Stork Craft Manufacturing, Inc.

**Tyler Pronyk**  
*Member at Large (until Oct 2022)*  
Principal, Tyler Allen Consulting, Inc.

**Shauna Shortt**  
*Member at Large*  
Project Lead, YWCA Metro Vancouver

**Traci Corr**  
*Member at Large*  
Clinical Research Manager, Vancouver Coastal Health

**Kyla Hochfilzer**  
*Member at Large*  
Acting Senior Director, Global Marketing, Destination Canada

**Brandon Kato**  
*Member at Large*

## Staff



**Leslie Williams**  
*Executive Director*



**Melad Charkhabi**  
*Farm Manager*



**Sarah Drewery**  
*Outgoing Executive Director and Richmond Garlic Fest Director*



**Eryn Peterson**  
*Assistant Farm Manager*

## Seasonal Farm Staff

**Garlic Fest & Communications Coordinator:**  
Rae Jampole

**Farm Assistants:**  
Leah Isfeld, Emma Sawatzky, Megan Stewart

**Field Assistants:**  
Jacky Hamer, Nicola Henderson, Cathy Lin, Aidan Tung

**Volunteer & Marketing Coordinator:**  
Morgan Game

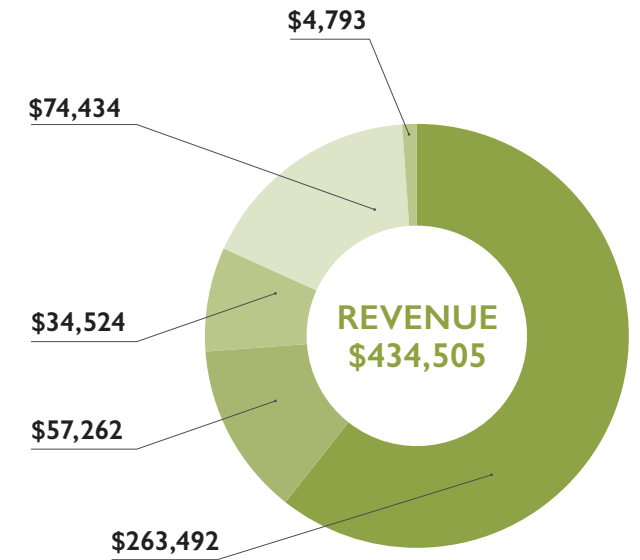
**Workshop Coordinator:**  
Kristen Penhall



# FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

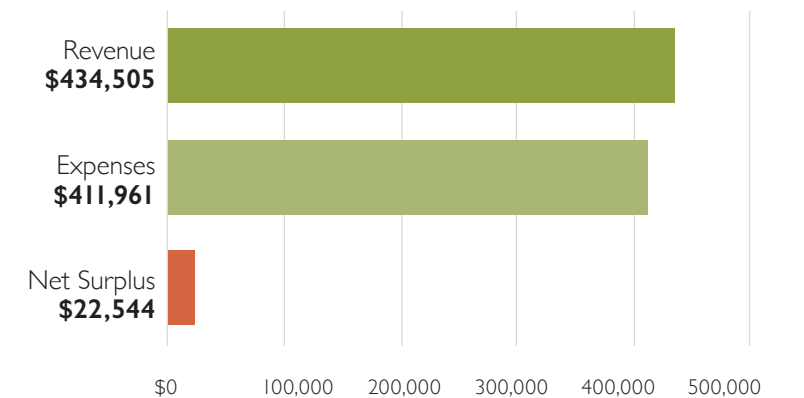
## Revenue Detail 2022

Grants, Donations, Sponsorships	\$263,492
Harvest Baskets	\$57,262
Produce Sales	\$34,524
Programs and Workshops	\$74,434
Other	\$4,793
<b>Revenue</b>	<b>\$434,505</b>



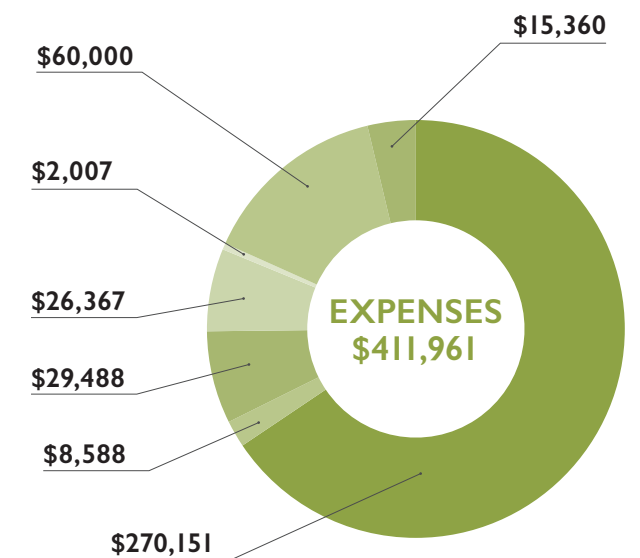
## Income Statement 2022

Revenue	\$434,505
Expenses	\$411,961
<b>Net Surplus</b>	<b>\$22,544</b>



## Expense Detail 2022

Salaries and Wages	\$270,151
General and Administration	\$8,588
Farm Supplies	\$29,488
Programs and Workshops	\$26,367
Sales and Promotions	\$2,007
Contingency	\$60,000
Non-cash Expenses	\$15,360
<b>Expenses</b>	<b>\$411,961</b>



# SHARING FARM ENTERPRISE INITIATIVES

In 2022, 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 – Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) program

Weekly baskets for 17 weeks.  
115 Harvest Baskets shares sold.  
Pickup at the Farm or East Vancouver.

## Farm Stand

In 2022 we expanded and extended our Farm Stand until mid-December, and many local folks came by and purchased our produce from Mary's Barn.

## Online Store

Our online store continued to sell fresh produce, as well as dried flowers, honey and garlic.

## Farmers Markets

The Sharing Farm attended sixteen Kwantlen Street Markets.



# SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM

For the tenth year, the Sharing Farm offered a three-tier sponsorship program for individuals and companies to contribute to the Sharing Farm and provide nutritious food to food-insecure families.

## Sponsorship Levels

### Neighbour Basket

Sponsor partners provide four months of a weekly basket of fresh vegetables to a family facing food insecurity.

### Bee Hive

In addition to a Neighbour Basket, the partner sponsors two sustainably-managed beehives 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 sponsoring a Neighbour Basket and two beehives, this level supports an acre of sustainably grown vegetables.

# THANK YOU

## TO OUR FUNDERS

### 2022 GRANTORS

City of Richmond  
BC Gaming Corporation  
Province of BC  
Community Food Centres Canada  
Government of Canada  
Richmond Community Foundation  
Metro Vancouver  
TD Friends of the Environment

### DONORS

John Harvey Mitchell Family Foundation  
TELDON

### GARLIC FESTIVAL

### SPONSORS & SUPPORTERS

City of Richmond  
Province of BC  
TD Canada Trust  
Nicola Wealth Management  
Save on Foods  
Whites LES  
Sweet Surrender Gelato  
Metro Vancouver  
TELDON  
Steveston Insider  
Edible Vancouver  
Vancouver Community College –  
Chef Hamid Salimian

### SPONSORS

Neighbourhood Basket Level –  
\$1,000 - \$4,999  
Staub Electronics  
Peterson  
Richmond Lions  
  
Bee Hive Level –  
\$5,000 - \$14,999  
TD Canada Trust  
LaFarge  
Change Healthcare  
  
Farm Land Level –  
\$15,000 and up  
Nicola Wealth

# THANK YOU

## TO OUR CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER GROUPS

UBC Alumni  
Bennu Centre  
Hapa Collaborative  
Layfield Group  
Staub Electronics  
Ergonomyx  
Peterson  
Nicola Wealth  
Jungle Scout  
August Corporate  
Nicola Wealth Tech Team  
Trendi  
Elite Wealth Management  
Lafarge  
Unity Tech Corp  
Normac  
Central One Corp  
BC Housing  
West Coast Seeds





**THE SHARING FARM SOCIETY**

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