
COLUMBIA MOUNTAINS INSTITUTE OF APPLIED ECOLOGY

2020 ANNUAL REPORT



www.cmiae.org

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

This past year was full of challenges and changes for the world. CMI was conscious of the need to be safe but at the same time, find a way to provide our members and community with valuable learning and networking opportunities. I'm proud to say that we succeeded! We adapted where we could to offer courses online and reformat our in-person CRED talks to webinars which reached over 370 live attendees (up 98 people from the previous year). We welcomed people from across Canada and the US, and from around the world including India, Israel, Brazil, Mexico, Peru,

United Kingdom, Argentina, and Switzerland. We felt privileged to reach such a large and diverse audience while still presenting material of value to our focal Columbia Mountains area. We rounded out the year with an in-person Fungi event, that found us traipsing through the snow in October hunting for specimens, cracking jokes, and exchanging fireside notes.

Thank you to our members for your continued support. As always reach out with event ideas, these drive what we do!

- Carrie Nadeau, R.P.Bio, CMI President

OUR MEMBERSHIP & NETWORK

In 2020 our annual membership numbers remained stable despite the pandemic and lower event activity with a total of 101 individual members (includes students) and 29 corporate members (includes approx 213 individuals). We saw a slight increase in the number of people enrolled to receive our event announcements with that list reaching 1460 people. Collectively, these people make up our network of folks who follow what we do to support their work in applied ecology in western Canada.

CMI Membership over the last 10 years

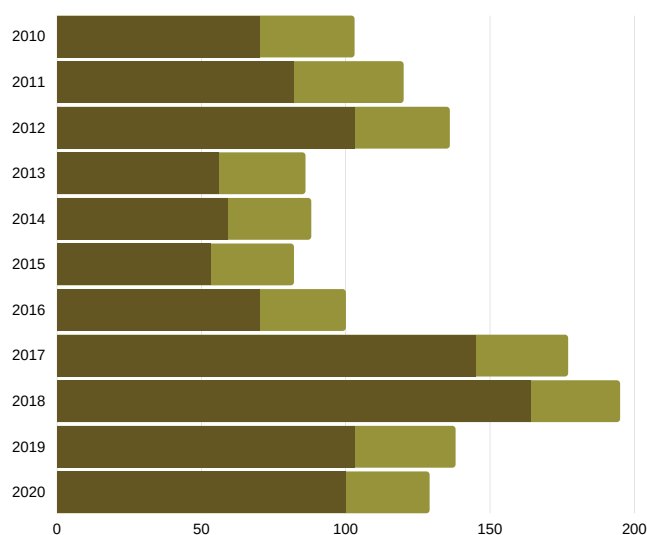


TABLE: Dark olive are individual members (including students), light olive are corporate members.

THANK YOU

2020 FUNDERS

- Columbia Basin Trust
- Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy (CEWS)

2020 EVENT PARTNERS

- School District 19

CONTINUING EDUCATION

Not surprisingly, we held fewer events in this year of the pandemic than a typical year but opportunities to test out new digital formats and creative scheduling provided us with great experience and techniques that will trickle forward into the future. Moving more into the online world has also allowed us to reach a broader audience both in terms of increased participation and diversity of attendees.

While usually these reports highlight the value of getting our community together face-to-face, celebrating each other's work, and learning from each other, much of 2020 became a year to shelter in place while seeing what of the above we could do from a safe distance. And as it turned out, we could still do a lot as you will see below, and do it well!

Courses

A total of 4 courses were held in 2020, which engaged a total of 102 students and 7 instructors. Due to the COVID19 Pandemic we cancelled two spring courses: Advanced Field Ornithology: Identification and Surveys by Sound & Recordings, and Amphibian Inventory and Monitoring Techniques. The following is a list of courses in the order they were held, the link will take you to our website for more information:

- [Occupancy Modelling](#)
- [Introduction to Wildlife Bioacoustics](#)
- [Fundamentals of science-based vegetation surveying. How to include the bryophytes and lichens](#)
- [Understanding Statistics & Decision-Making for Natural Resource Managers](#)
- [Introduction to Forest Fungi – bringing them out of the dark](#)
- [Introduction to QGIS](#)

CMi RESOURCES

Did you know that CMI has created a proceedings document from every one of its major events? We also have a YouTube channel where you can find recordings of speakers who have presented for CMI. You can find all of this under the "Resources" tab of our website or search for them on Province of BC's Ecological Reports Catalogue. The whole of our website is easily searchable and we encourage you to have a look around: www.cmiae.org

Free public talks & outreach

CREDtalks (Columbia Region Ecological Discussions)

We entered into our fifth and likely the most popular season of CREDtalks (Columbia Region Ecological Discussions) this year, all of which were held in a webinar format and resulted in great recordings available to anyone with interest. The talks were excellent and addressed a wide variety of topics, including some of the focal topics of the events canceled in light of the pandemic. We encourage you to check them out!

- Chris Beirne, Tips and Tricks for the Organization and Analysis of Camera Trap Data
- Jason Fisher, Rocky Mountain Mammal Communities: Camera Trapping Brings the Effects of Development into Focus
- Blaire Smith, The Swallow Hotel: Compensation Habitat for Barn Swallows in the Creston Valley Wildlife Management Area
- Greg Utzig, Climate Change and the Biodiversity Crisis
- Robyn Irvine, Patterns of Change through a Rainbow Trout Lens

We thank the Columbia Basin Trust for their support of this series and the speakers for sharing their time and sharing their knowledge with us!

Conferences

In May of 2020 we were scheduled to host our conference on Scaling up Camera Trap Surveys to Inform Regional Wildlife Conservation in Kimberley BC. Just months before delivery, however, COVID shocked us all and this event was rescheduled a number of times before eventually moving to an online format in 2021 (more on this event in the 2021 report to come.) No other large events took place in 2020.

THANK YOU TO OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS & STAFF

DIRECTORS:

*Jeremy Ayotte
Marc-André Beaucher
Kevin Bollefer, Treasurer
Catherine Craig
Ryan Gill
Doris Hausleitner
Mike Miller
Randy Moody
Natalie Stafl, later replaced by Peter
Tarleton for Natalie's Maternity Leave*

DIRECTORS CON'T:

*Carrie Nadeau, President
Harry van Oort
Brendan Wilson, Vice-President*

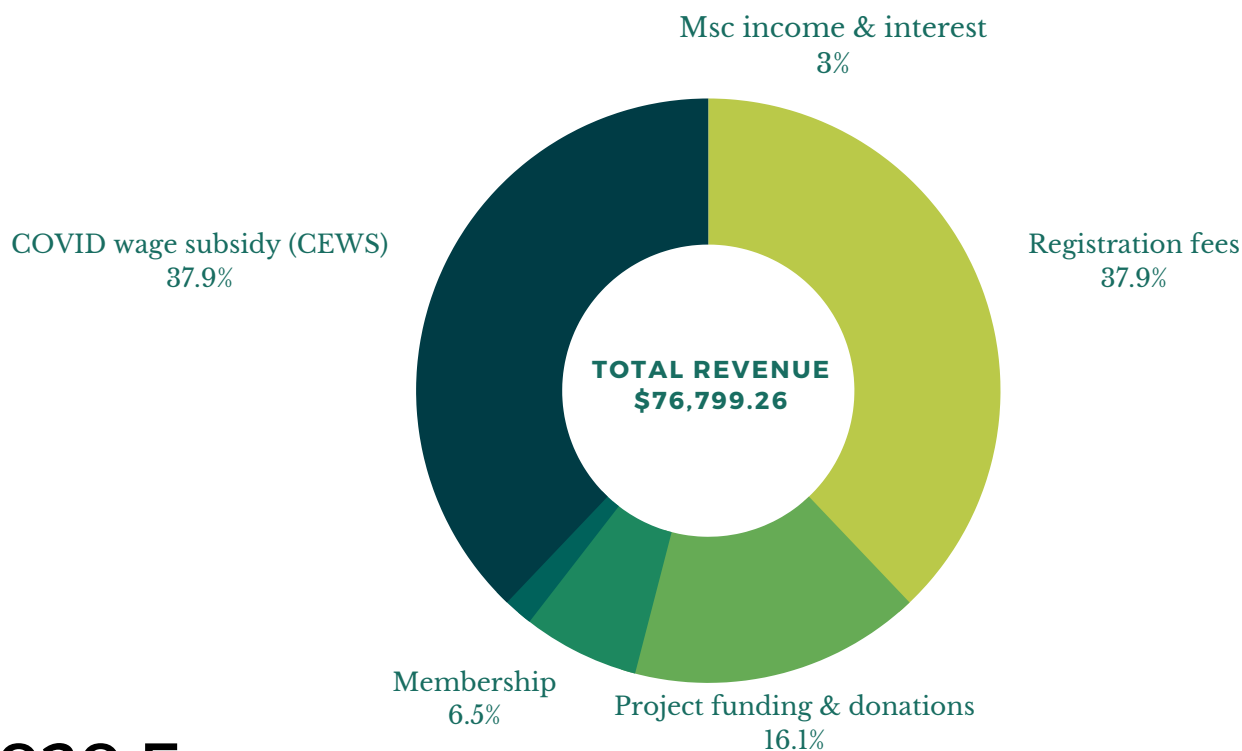
STAFF:

Hailey Ross, Executive Director

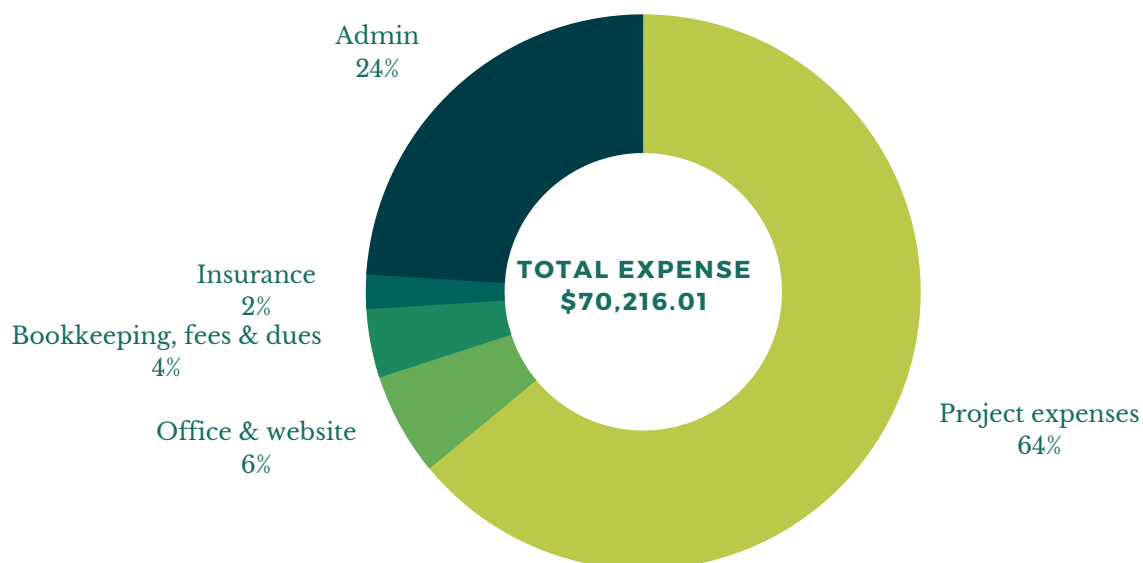
*Learn more about our directors and staff
on our webpage [here](#)*

FINANCES

2020 Revenue



2020 Expenses



Net Profit for 2020 was \$6,583.25