

COLUMBIA MOUNTAINS INSTITUTE OF APPLIED ECOLOGY

2022 ANNUAL REPORT

www.cmiae.org



CMI acknowledges and honours the four nations on whose territory we work: the Sinixt, the Ktunaxa, the Secwepemc, and the Syilx.

Photo: Glen Wainman

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

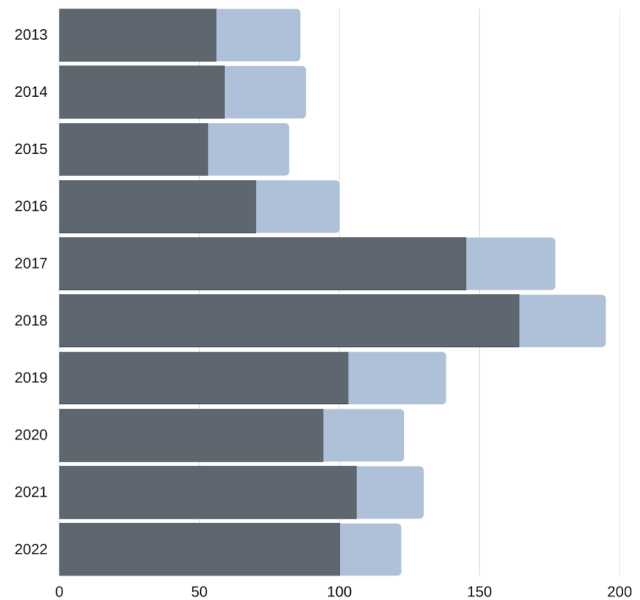
Like many other organizations, CMI started in person meetings this year along with some hybrid online offerings as we attempted to normalize our lives after what we hope is the tail end of the COVID-19 pandemic. As our organization moves on from these last few years, we have learned some new ways of doing things, including more online offerings and useful options for hybrid attendance which has allowed more remotely located people the opportunity to attend some of our meetings where this wouldn't have been possible previously. As you will read below, the courses that we offered this past year showcase some new ideas in familiar themes, including statistics and using new camera and audio recording technology in the field. Although there were many highlights, my personal favourite was reconnecting with friends and colleagues at our Annual Researchers Forum – our first in several years.

- Dr. Brendan Wilson, RPBio, CMI President

OUR MEMBERSHIP & NETWORK

In 2022, annual membership numbers remained stable with 100 individual members (includes 15 students) and 22 corporate members. The number of individuals covered under corporate memberships increased to 460 from 337. An analysis of return versus new memberships showed that just 36 out of 100 individual members were also members the previous year (up from 25 in 2021). The majority of corporate memberships were return renewals, which aligns with long-term trends. We continue to see an increase in the number of people enrolled to receive our event announcements with that list reaching 1600 people (up from 1505 in 2021). Collectively, these people make up CMI's network.

CMI Membership over the last 10 years



Dark grey are individual members (including students), light grey are corporate members.



THANK YOU

2022 FUNDERS

- Columbia Basin Trust
- Teck Resources

2022 EVENT PARTNERS

- Kutenai Nature Investigations

CONTINUING EDUCATION

In 2022, CMI welcomed back in-person participation, but retained some online courses and a webinar format for our popular CREDtalks. It felt great to gather with our network again face-to-face, but also to balance this out with remote offerings making certain courses and events more accessible to many.

We are continually seeking feedback from our network on what sort of events and courses they could use to support them professionally – these suggestions drive our programming. We are always pleased to get your suggestions so please send them in!

Courses & Workshops

A total of 9 courses were held in 2022, which engaged a total of 147 (this includes QGIS students) students and 17 instructors and volunteer moderators. The courses held included the return of CMI favourites like John Woods' and Marc Andre Beaucher's Advanced Field Ornithology course, some courses that had been adapted to new formats with new instructors like Ayla Pearson's Intro to R and Data Manipulation and Visualization in R, and exciting new additions such as Chris Beirne's course on Camera Trap Data Analysis.

The following is a list of courses in the order they were held; the link will take you to the associated event pages for more information:

- [Data Manipulation and Visualization](#)
- [Introduction to `R` software](#)
- [An Introduction to Camera Trap Data Management and Analysis in R](#)
- [Fungal Ecology: Beyond Decomposition](#)
- [Statistical Rethinking Study Group](#)
- [Field Soil Description & Classification Course](#)
- [Advanced Field Ornithology: Identification and Surveys by Sound and Recordings](#)
- [Understanding Statistics & Decision-Making for Natural Resource Managers](#)
- [QGIS level I & II](#)

CMI RESOURCES & PUBLIC OUTREACH

CMI maintains and is continually adding to our [YouTube Channel](#) – a place that has just gotten better since the beginning of the pandemic and includes all the recordings curated during our popular CREDtalks series. There are dozens of talk recordings on there from past events available to anyone with interest. We also create [proceedings documents](#) from all of our major events which are fabulous resources and available as free downloads from our website. Most of these proceeding documents can also be found on EcoCat: the Province of [BC's Ecological Reports Catalogue](#). EcoCat provides access to reports on ecological activities in BC, plus related files such as maps, datasets and published inventories when available. Subject areas include: aquatic species and habitats, terrestrial species and habitats, floodplain mapping, reservoirs, groundwater, and vegetation.

Public Talks & Webinars

The CREDtalks built in momentum and quality once again, with season 6 continuing in a webinar format and taking on a cohesive theme. Eight scientists presented on the theme of



Climate Disruption in the Upper Columbia. The talks addressed projected impacts, potential for adaptation, and what we can do with ecosystems that contribute to mitigation. Just over 270 people registered for this series, and the recordings posted to CMI's YouTube Channel have been popular with over 500 views of the opening talk. The series inspired a thought-provoking essay written by Donna MacDonald titled Knocking on Doors, Reflections on Hope and Action. We encourage you to delve into this series if you haven't already!

Many thanks to Greg Utzig for helping to curate the speaker list, the speakers for sharing their time and knowledge with us, and the Columbia Basin Trust for financial support.

CMI's Researchers' Forum

After a pandemic-induced hiatus, the Researcher's Forum made a come back! About 60 people gathered in Radium BC at the beautiful community centre for a series of excellent talks, posters presentations, social time and field trips. The proceedings document and more about this great annual event can be found here. Where would you like to see this held next year?

Youth Engagement

For many years, CMI has engaged the youth audiences, primarily at Revelstoke's secondary and primary schools when we have visiting ecologists in town with interesting projects and tales to share, introducing students to the idea of careers in applied ecology. This past year Chris Beirne braved a Halloween visit with the Science 11s with a presentation that took students around the globe via camera traps. The presentation was as spooky as it was engaging (think: gruesome camera trap photos!). John Woods, Marc Andre Beaucher, and Doris Hausleitner introduced those same Science 11 students and a grade 2 class to the world of ornithology with the help of the Merlin App. These are really fun days! Many thanks to School District 19 for hosting us, and providing space for our courses.

THANK YOU TO OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS & STAFF

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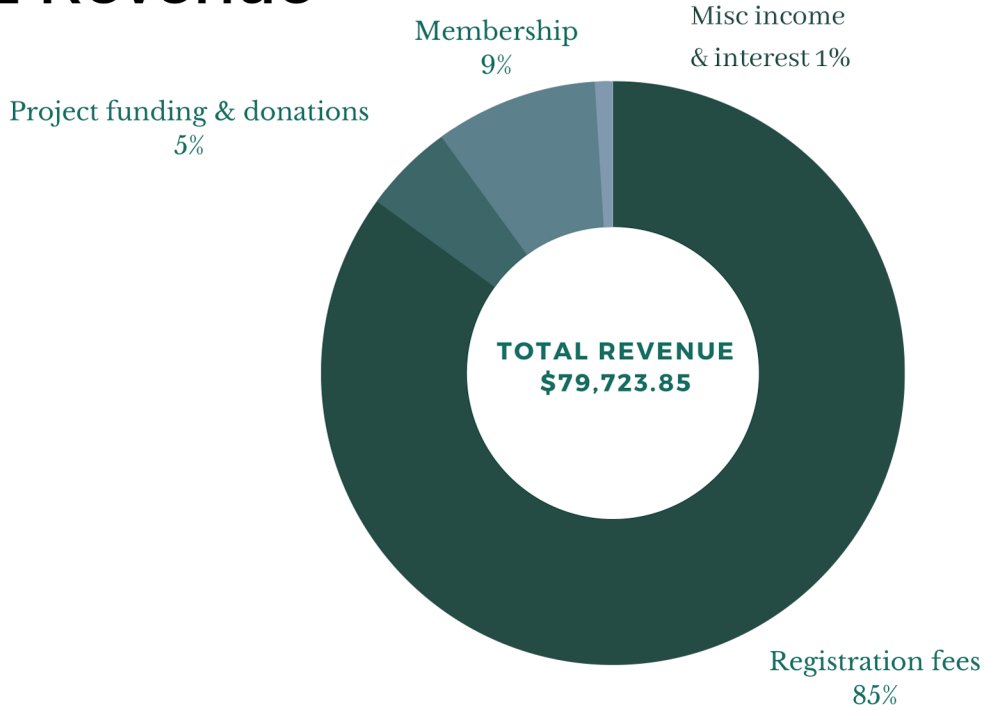
Hailey Ross, Executive Director
Mia King, Administrative Assistant

Learn more about our directors and staff on our webpage here

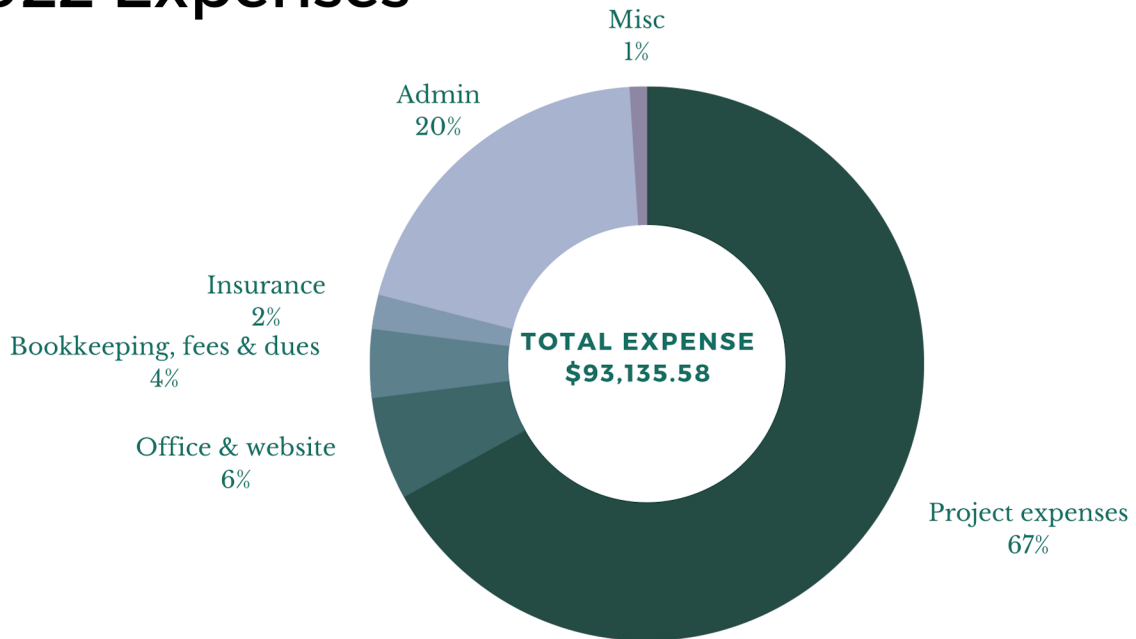
Photo: Glen Wainman

FINANCES

2022 Revenue



2022 Expenses



Net Profit for 2022 was -\$13,411.70