



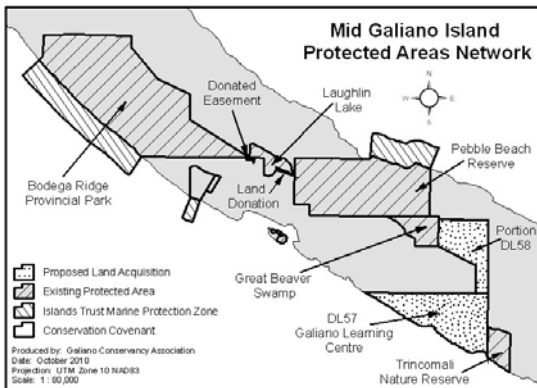
Why Support the Galiano Restorative Learning Centre?

The Need

Research suggests that youth become depressed when they experience only destructive ways of interacting with the land, each other, and members of their larger community. Many youth are suffering from "Nature Deficit Disorder", *"a condition caused by the cumulative human costs of alienation from nature, including diminished use of the senses, attention difficulties and higher rates of physical and emotional illnesses"* (Louve, *Last Child in the Woods*). Many young people everywhere are left feeling that all of our resources have been used up or polluted, that there is nothing left for them and no way to make it better. Youth are more self-indulgent, apathetic, or violent when they have no hope for the future and grow into adults with limited self confidence, sense of responsibility or problem solving skills.

The Solution

Several days in a natural setting with inspirational mentors can change the direction of a young person's life. In our experience, youth that have come to our programs labeled "troubled" have radically transformed in the eyes of their teachers, their peers and themselves - into cooperative, self-confident and motivated team members. They carry this knowledge of themselves back into their classroom, community and families. The key factor to this transformation? Engaging in hands-on, physical ecological restoration work for a number of days, and then participating in personal and group reflection to translate the lessons learned into the courage and hope needed to plan how to make a difference back home. With a permanent Learning Centre, we'll be able to run longer programs, year round, for more youth.



The Site for the Restorative Learning Centre

Located on the southwest shore of Galiano, the site we propose for the Learning Centre has necessary amenities such as a working farm, a stream, and a cove suitable for launching kayaks. It is within walking distance of our current ecological restoration education projects. This acquisition will protect 290 acres, including over 2 km of undeveloped shoreline featuring endangered old growth Douglas fir, arbutus, Garry oak and associated species at risk. DL 57 and 58 will connect existing protected areas into a wildlife corridor spanning the island from Trincomali Channel to Georgia Strait and back.

Progress to Date

- ✓ 10 years of successful education programs reaching 28,200 individuals
- ✓ Strong team of gifted and committed staff, Board and volunteers
- ✓ 20 years proven property management & financial accountability
- ✓ National award winning large scale ecosystem restoration projects
- ✓ \$100,000 deposit raised and Options to Purchase exercised
- ✓ \$2 million matching funds secured (Natural Areas Conservation Program)



Missing Piece of the Puzzle: Key Donors

Your charitable donation will contribute to a legacy of hope for the future among thousands of young people from all walks of life. Our multiday programs will foster their ability to live in harmony with each other and the natural world.

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The Galiano Restorative Learning Centre

Partnering to Build Resilience in Youth and Communities through Nature



Grandparents Raising Grandchildren at the “Grandmother Tree”, Galiano Island

“Planting a seed of hope so that life is meaningful.”

Florence James, Penelakut Elder