

# BOARD OF DIRECTORS REPORT, GABRIOLA ISLAND RECYCLING ORGANIZATION

## FOR THE 2014 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

### PURPOSES OF GIRO

- Operate a recycling depot
- Encourage environmentally-responsible consumer practices
- Promote co-operation to improve the island environment
- Promote wise use of the earth's resources

(Summarized from the GIRO Constitution)

### CHANGES IN THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS SINCE THE 2013 AGM

1. After the 2013 AGM on April 16, 2013, the Board of Directors consisted of:
  - President Jacinthe Eastick (continuing in 2-year term to 2014 AGM)
  - Vice-President Barb Bell (1-year term to 2014 AGM)
  - Secretary John Beatty (1-year term to 2014 AGM)
  - Treasurer Peter Dzeirzawa (continuing in 2-year term to 2014 AGM)
  - Directors-at-Large Robbie Stadfield & Ron Slade (continuing in 2-year terms to 2014 AGM);  
John Coleman, Peter Jordison, & Gerry Stefanson (1-year terms to 2014 AGM)
2. Resignations in writing received by the Board, effective upon receipt:
  - April 29, 2013: Jacinthe Eastick, President
  - June, 2013: Robbie Stadfield, Director-at-LargeThe Board then consisted of seven members, with two vacancies.
3. Resignations in writing received by the Board between September 6 & 11, 2013, effective upon receipt:
  - Barb Bell, Vice-President
  - John Beatty, Secretary
  - Ron Slade, Director-at-Large
  - Gerry Stefanson, Director-at-LargeThe Board then consisted of three members, with six vacancies. The *Society Act of BC* (24.4) states that a Board must have at least three members. Thus the remaining three directors constituted a legal Board.
4. September 16, 2013 Board meeting: The Board appointed six people to serve as Board members only until the 2014 AGM (as per GIRO Bylaws, 28.1):
  - President Richard Nolan
  - Directors-at-Large Jackie O'Hara, Richard Ralphs, Merv Sweeney, Patricia Sweeney, Bruce Taylor
5. Resignations in writing received, effective upon receipt:
  - Richard Nolan, President: April 15, 2014
  - Merv Sweeney, Member-at-large: May 21, 2014The Board did not appoint new Directors, because of the short time remaining until the 2014 AGM in July.

### COMMUNICATIONS

The Board has tried to provide ongoing education and promotion regarding GIRO. One method has been the GIRO website, and the Board has worked hard this past year on improvements to the website. In October & November 2013, the Board conducted a survey of GIRO users and approximately 400 people responded. The results of the survey are posted on the GIRO website under "Community".

## **FACILITIES**

Buildings: The buildings have been maintained throughout the year. The outdoor area of the ReStore was reorganized, which has enabled shoppers to find items more easily. The receiving area was relocated to a covered area attached to the building, providing a better year-round workspace. A designated handicapped parking spot was created.

Grant of \$75,000 from the Regional District of Nanaimo (RDN): In the fall of 2012, GIRO applied for \$75,000 from the RDN (specifically, from the federal Gas Tax Fund), to help pay for some major facility improvements; approval happened in the fall of 2013. The Board has met with RDN staff to organize the implementation of this project.

## **STAFF**

The Clothing Store staff started a “one-dollar table” that has been very successful, and the men’s area became more popular. Color-coding on price-tags was another new initiative this past year. At Halloween both children and adults enjoyed picking out masks and costumes.

The ReStore staff offered a free table and colour-coded pricing. A Christmas Shopping day with special pricing, complimentary gift wrapping, hot chocolate and candy canes helped introduce the children to the concepts of reduce, re-use and recycle.

The Recycling Depot staff hosted field trips to GIRO for school-children on the island. Dean Clark (Recycling Manager) began an educational program on recycling at the Gabriola Elementary School, meeting once a week for five months. The program was very successful, and there is interest in continuing it.

Dean Clark (Recycling Manager) and Denise McCrae (ReStore Manager) renewed their First Aid certification.

## **EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING AND SUBSEQUENT COMMUNITY PLANNING DAY**

### Extraordinary General Meeting – September 5 & October 8, 2013

In response to a formal request from GIRO members for a members’ meeting for specific purposes, the Board called an “Extraordinary General Meeting” of GIRO members for September 5, 2013, to address certain topics of special business. Partway through the agenda on September 5, the meeting decided to adjourn temporarily in order to continue the meeting in early October. On October 8 the continuation of the meeting was held; both sections of the meeting were well-attended. The draft minutes of this meeting were posted on the GIRO website a few weeks before the 2014 AGM, for review and approval at the 2014 AGM. The Board would like to thank the chair of the meeting, Nancy Hetherington Peirce, for her contributions.

### Community Strategic Planning Day – December 1, 2013

This event was organized in response to a motion from the Extraordinary General Meeting of September 5 & October 8, 2013: *“That the Board of Directors organize and host a one-day strategic planning workshop prior to November 30, 2013, not using Robert’s Rules of Order and using a facilitator, and use the results of that session to amend the current strategic plan, model of operation and priorities of GIRO.”*

The Introduction section of the Notes from December 1, 2013 GIRO Strategic Planning Day (posted on the GIRO website under “Community”) summarizes the focus of this event:

*“On December 1, 2013 GIRO hosted a community strategic planning session moderated by Sustainable Gabriola. The objectives of the session were:*

- *To ensure a common understanding of the task and the approach;*
- *To create a welcoming, safe environment that encourages people to imagine a positive and successful future for GIRO;*
- *To seek consensus wherever possible and where not possible, to record the diverse richness of perspectives*

- *To have a shared understanding of the purposes of GIRO, the values and principles to support it into the future and to have begun the work of addressing key topics of concern to the community. The following notes outline the rich and varied input from participants of the December 1<sup>st</sup> session. The purpose of these notes is to provide the basis for a strategic plan developed by the GIRO Board in partnership with GIRO members. The notes include both verbatim responses from participants as well as summaries of the six topic tables: a) GIRO purposes, b) Funding model, c) Board/Community governance, d) Restore and clothing store, e) Volunteers and Staff, and f) Wild Card.”*

The complete notes are posted on the GIRO website. The Board would like to thank the co-facilitators, Dyan Dunsmoor-Farley and Fay Weller, for their contributions.

## **BURSARIES**

As a new initiative in early 2014, the Board established three bursaries of \$1,000 each, funded by income from the auction items. These bursaries were available to post-secondary students living on Gabriola Island who had completed a minimum of one year of studies with at least a C+ average. The successful applicants for 2014 were announced recently, and the Board offers their congratulations to: Emily Boorer, Cassielle Dent, and Sabrina Meyer.

## **DONATIONS**

GIRO and PHC partnered to create a program whereby GIRO provided gift certificates for household and clothing necessities at no cost to PHC clients, to help families make ends meet in situations such as: back-to-school times, special occasions during the year, or when a family has to move. This program is an extension of GIRO's ongoing commitment to help those who are experiencing financial hardship.

## **APPRECIATION**

The Board would like to express their appreciation and thanks to the current staff at the GIRO Depot (both paid and volunteer) for their impressive work and their unwavering dedication over the past year, and also to the many behind-the-scenes volunteers who have contributed their time and expertise to the work of GIRO. As well, the Board would like to express their appreciation and thanks to those paid staff and volunteers whose work at GIRO ended during this past year.

All these people, both former and current workers, have provided valuable service to the Gabriola community and the Board deeply appreciates their contributions.

GIRO Board of Directors, June 2014