

Annual General Meeting
Cole Harbour Rural Heritage Society
Tuesday, 29 March 2022

Call to Order

Approval of the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting, 18 March 2019

Business Arising from the Minutes

Financial Statements

Annual Reports:

Chair of the Board of Directors

Executive Director

Collections

Bell Trust

Nominating Committee

Appointment of Auditors

New Business

Adjournment

Cole Harbour Rural Heritage Society
Cole Harbour, Nova Scotia

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FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(unaudited)
December 31, 2021

Notice to Readers
Cole Harbour Rural Heritage Society

The accompanying Balance Sheet and the Statement of Income for the year ended December 31, 2021 have been prepared from the books and records of Cole Harbour Rural Heritage Society, and from the information and explanations supplied by the company. In order to prepare these financial statements, a review was made consisting of enquiry, comparison, and discussion of such information.

However, in accordance with terms of our engagement, we have not audited or otherwise attempted to verify the accuracy or completeness of such information. Readers are cautioned that these statements may not be appropriate for their purpose.

Reeves Accounting Service
March 28, 2022

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Cole Harbour Rural Heritage Society

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Cole Harbour Rural Heritage Society
Detailed Balance Sheet - Combined Funds
(unaudited)
for the year ended December 31, 2021

	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
Assets		
<i>Current Assets</i>		
Bank, Cash, and Cash on Hand	47,577	33,918
Prepaid Expenses	2,063	50
Receivables	7,755	3,559
Inventory	6,274	6,318
Total Current Assets - Operating	<u>63,669</u>	<u>43,845</u>
Meeting House Bank & Cash on Hand		
Total Assets Operating/Meeting House	<u>63,669</u>	<u>43,845</u>
 <i>Long Term Assets</i>		
Overdraft Security	26,887	25,123
Total Long Tem Assets	<u>26,887</u>	<u>25,123</u>
 Capital	1	1
Total Assets	<u><u>90,557</u></u>	<u><u>68,969</u></u>
 Liabilities		
<i>Current Liabilities</i>		
Accounts Payable	411	1,699
Farm Maintenance Fund	1,000	1,000
Payroll Liabilities	5,199	6,574
R & M Eaton Exhibit Fund	10,000	12,000
Deferred Liability	42,000	
Deferred Grant Revenue	1,375	17,375
Total Liabilities	<u>59,985</u>	<u>38,648</u>
 Equity		
<i>Current</i>		
Operating - Net Income (Loss)	255	2,902
Meeting House - Net Income (Loss)	(5)	(405)
Trust - Net Income (Loss)		0.00
Capital Reserve Fund	10,000	10,000
Accumulated Surplus (Deficit) Carried Forward	20,321	17,823
Total Equity From Funds	<u>30,571</u>	<u>30,320</u>
Members Capital	1	1
Total Members' Equity	<u>30,572</u>	<u>30,321</u>
Total Liabilities and Equity	<u><u>90,557</u></u>	<u><u>68,969</u></u>

Cole Harbour Rural Heritage Society
 Summary of Combined Revenues
 (unaudited)
 for the year ended December 31, 2021

	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
Net Income (Loss)		
Operating Fund	255	2,902
Meeting House Fund	(5)	(405)
Trust Fund	0	0
Net Income (Loss) - All Funds	<u>250</u>	<u>2,497</u>
Prior Adjustments		
Surplus (Deficit), Beginning - All Funds	<u>20,317</u>	<u>17,820</u>
Surplus (Deficit), Ending - All Funds	<u><u>20,567</u></u>	<u><u>20,317</u></u>

Cole Harbour Rural Heritage Society
Operating Funds
Detailed Income Statement
(unaudited)
for the year ended December 31, 2021

	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
Revenue		
Grants - Provincial	57,611	54,721
Grants - Federal	91,330	96,005
Grants - Municipal	34,475	32,400
Grants - Other		
HST Recovery	1,601	1,471
Total Grant Revenue	<u>185,017</u>	<u>184,597</u>
Tea Room	25,973	20,442
Gift Shop	11,920	9,937
Memberships	690	80
Donations	17,805	13,494
Donations - CFNS	2,074	
Programs & Tours	5,285	832
Fundraisers - Auction/Fundraisers	6,629	20,928
Facility Rental/Other	745	9,101
Fee for service	4,278	10,745
Sponsorship	1,000	
Interest Earned	51	157
Total Operating & Grant Revenue	<u>261,467</u>	<u>270,313</u>
Expenses		
Cost of Sales	13,938	14,833
Fundraising	2,290	3,927
Community Fund of NS Endowment Fund Contribution		5,000
Administration	1,916	1,765
Professional Fees	5,439	2,305
Settle Barn	3,455	9,400
Capital- Harris House		
Equipment	7,608	13,233
Unrecoverable HST	3,977	4,425
Insurance	4,436	3,500
Livestock	2,568	2,377
Maintenance	5,419	23,471
Harris House maintenance	14,343	
Grounds maintenance	7,920	
Museum	9,798	4,122
Salaries & Benefits	166,899	154,227
Advertising	955	527
Office	2,535	2,307
Bank Fees & Interest	1,668	1,313
Capital reserve fund		10,000
Utilities	6,048	10,679
Total Expenses	<u>261,212</u>	<u>267,411</u>
Net Income (Loss) - Operations	<u>255</u>	<u>2,902</u>
Transfer from (to) Trust & Meeting House Fund		
Surplus (Deficit), Beginning - Operations	21,184	18,282
Prior Period Adjustment	5	
Surplus (Deficit), Ending - Operations	<u>21,444</u>	<u>21,184</u>

Cole Harbour Rural Heritage Society
Meeting House Funds
Detailed Income Statement
(unaudited)
for the year ended December 31, 2021

	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
Revenue		
Collections Donations		
Rent		
Other		
Total Revenue	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Expenses		
Supplies	5	405
Petty Cash Shortage		
Capital Expenditures		
Total Expenses	<u>5</u>	<u>405</u>
Net Income (Loss) - Meeting House	<u>(5)</u>	<u>(405)</u>
Transferred (HST)		
Transferred Close Accounts		
Surplus (Deficit), Beginning - Meeting House	<u>(867)</u>	<u>(462)</u>
Surplus (Deficit), Ending - Meeting House	<u>(872)</u>	<u>(867)</u>

Cole Harbour Rural Heritage Society
Statement of Financial Position
(unaudited)
as at December 31, 2021

	2021					2020
	Operating	Meeting House	Trust	Capital	Total	Total
Assets						
<i>Current</i>						
Cash on Hand and in bank	48,449	(872)			47,577	33,918
Prepaid Expenses	2,063				2,063	50
Receivable	7,755				7,755	3,559
Inventory, at cost	6,274				6,274	6,318
	<u>64,541</u>	<u>(872)</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>63,669</u>	<u>43,845</u>
<i>Long Term</i>						
Investments					0.00	0.00
Overdraft Security	26,887				26,887	25,123
Capital Assets				1	1	1
	<u>26,887</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>26,888</u>	<u>25,124</u>
	<u>91,428</u>	<u>(872)</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>90,557</u>	<u>68,969</u>
Liabilities						
<i>Current</i>						
Bank Overdraft						
Accounts Payable	5,610				5,610	8,273
Farm Maintenance Fund	1,000				1,000	1,000
R&M Eaton Exhibit Fund	10,000				10,000	12,000
Deferred Revenue	43,375				43,375	17,375
	<u>59,985</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>59,985</u>	<u>38,648</u>
Fund Balance						
Members' Equity in Capital Assets					0.00	0.00
Trust funds					0.00	0.00
Capital Reserve Fund	10,000				10,000	0.00
Accumulated Surplus (Deficit)	21,443	(872)		1	20,572	30,321
Total Ending Surplus - All Funds	<u>31,443</u>	<u>(872)</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>30,572</u>	<u>30,321</u>
	<u>91,428</u>	<u>(872)</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>90,557</u>	<u>68,969</u>

Cole Harbour Rural Heritage Society
Statement of Operations and Changes in Fund Balances
(unaudited)
for the year ended December 31, 2021

	2021					2020
	Operating Fund	Meeting House	Trust Fund	Capital Fund	Combined Funds	Combined Funds
Total Revenue	261,467				261,467	270,313
Expenses						
Cost of Sales	13,938	5			13,943	15,235
Salaries & Benefits	166,899				166,899	154,227
Capital- Giles House					0.00	0.00
Capital- Harris House					0.00	0.00
Capital- Event Tent					0.00	0.00
Capital- Farm Site					0.00	0.00
Capital- Equipment	7,608				7,608	13,244
Direct Costs	66,874				66,874	78,921
Non Recoverable HST	3,977				3,977	4,425
Transfer					0.00	0.00
Administration	1,916				1,916	1,764
Total Expenses	261,212	5	0.00	0.00	261,217	267,816
Net Income (Loss)	255	(5)	0.00	0.00	250	2,497
Transfer from (to) other funds					0.00	0.00
Surplus (Deficit), Beginning	21,189	(867)			20,322	17,820
Prior Period Adjustment					0.00	0.00
Accumulated Surplus (Deficit), End	21,444	(872)	0.00	0.00	20,572	20,317

Cole Harbour Rural Heritage Society
Notes to the financial statements

Significant Accounting Policies

a. Fund Accounting

The society follows the restricted method of accounting for revenue.

The operating fund records the day to day operation transactions of the Society and may include certain funds held for specific purpose.

The Trust Funds record legacies, donations, and other accounts that have been segregated and administered by the Board.

The Meeting House account is separate from other society operation and is administered by the Board.

The Capital Fund includes buildings, equipment, and furnishings, carried at a nominal value of \$1.

b. Capital Assets

Current purchases of furnishings, equipment, alterations, and maintenance to buildings are expensed as purchased. Depreciation is not charged on capital assets.

c. Investments

Investments are carried at market value.

d. Revenue Recognitions

Special purpose contributions related to general operations are recognized as revenue of the operating fund in the year in which the related expenses are included.

Unrestricted contributions are recognized as revenue of the operating fund in the year received if the amount can be reasonably estimated and collection is assured.

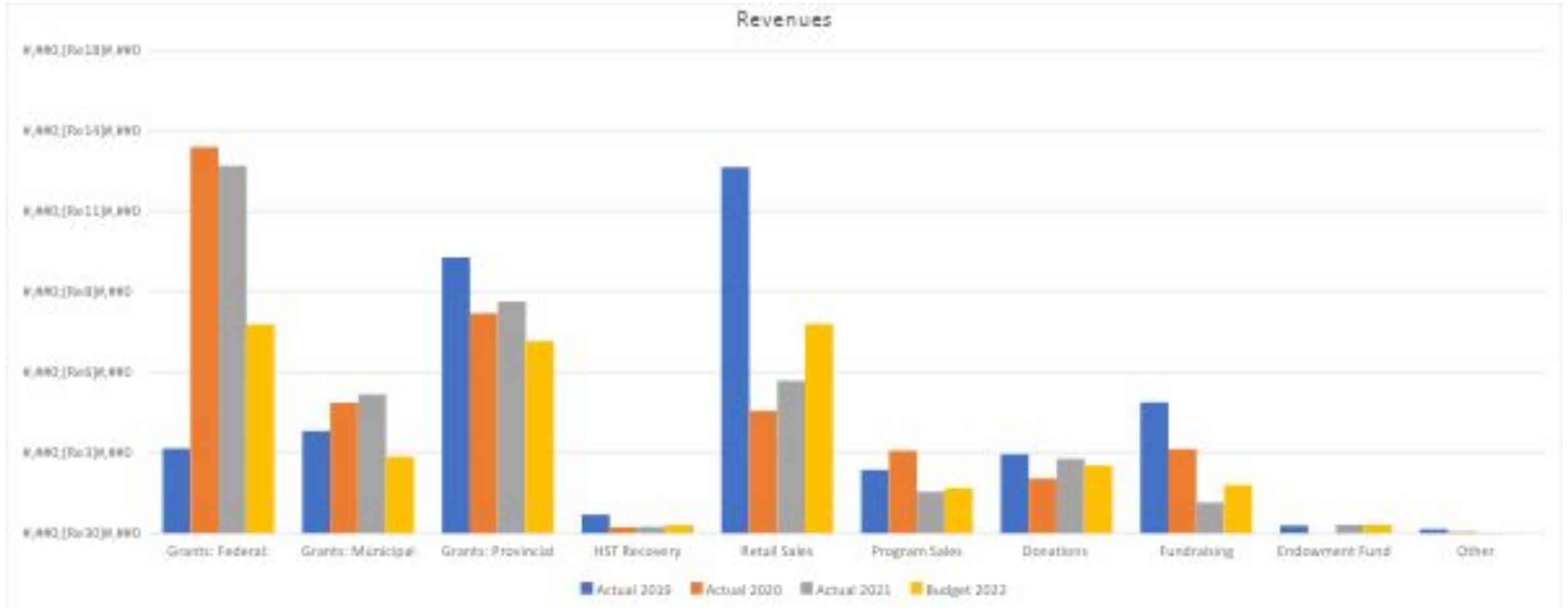
Specific bequests are recognized as revenue in the Trust Fund.

Investment income earned on Trust Fund resources is recognized as revenue of the Trust Funds.

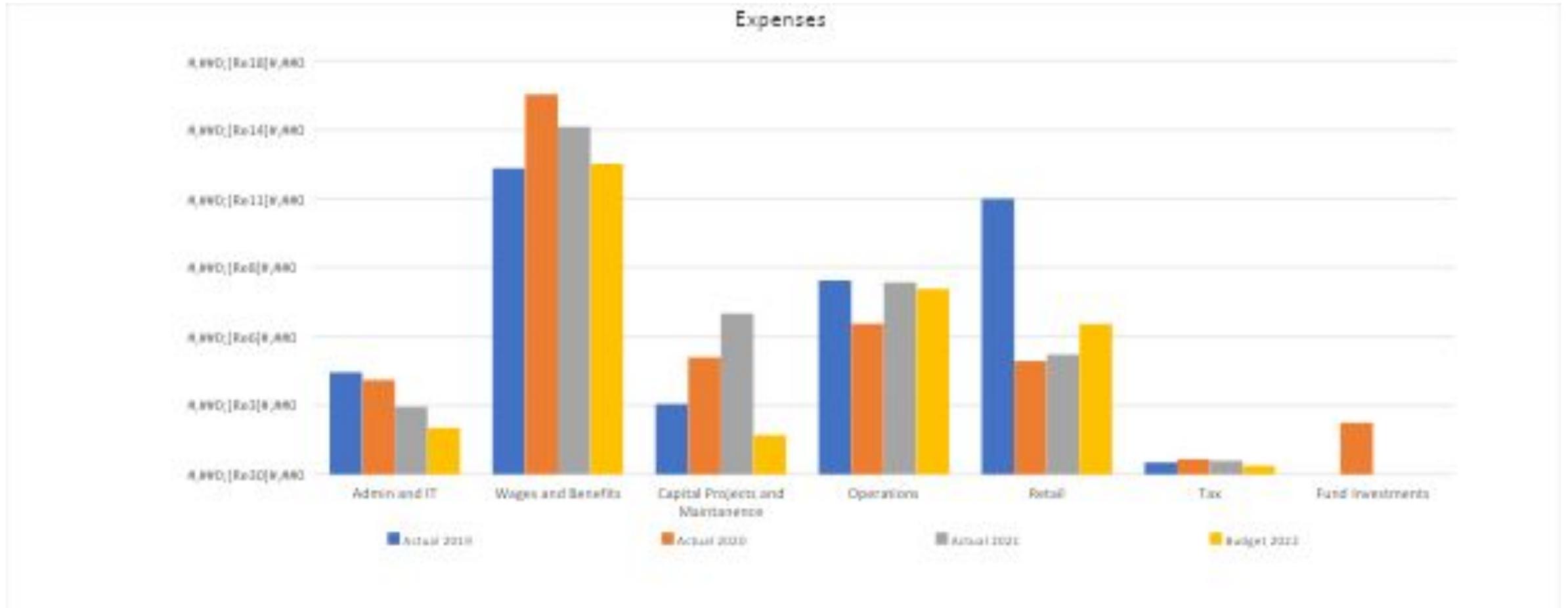
e. The increase in federal funding is connected to Covid 19 emergency support programs.

f. The organization created a Capital Reserve Fund starting in 2020.

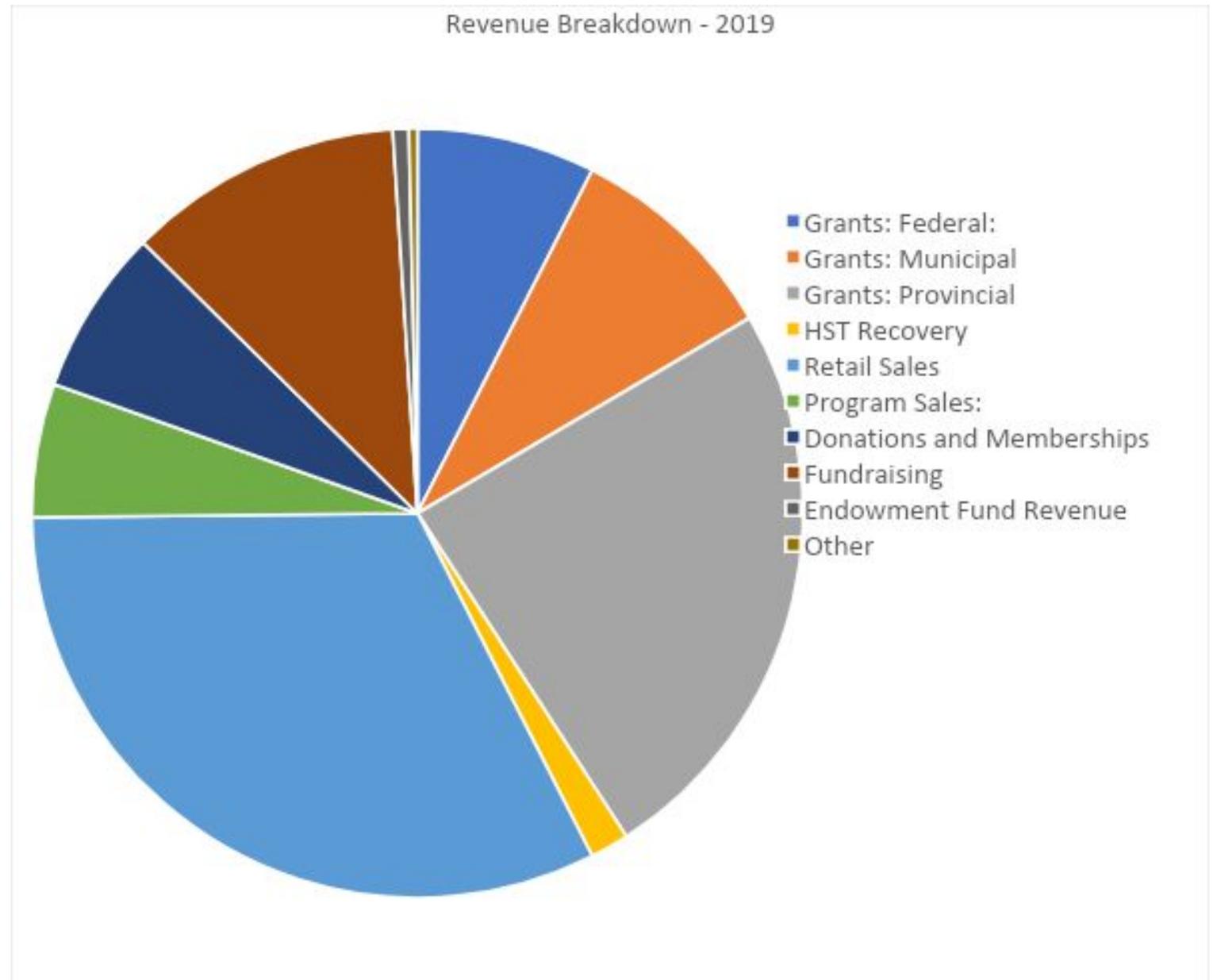
Revenue



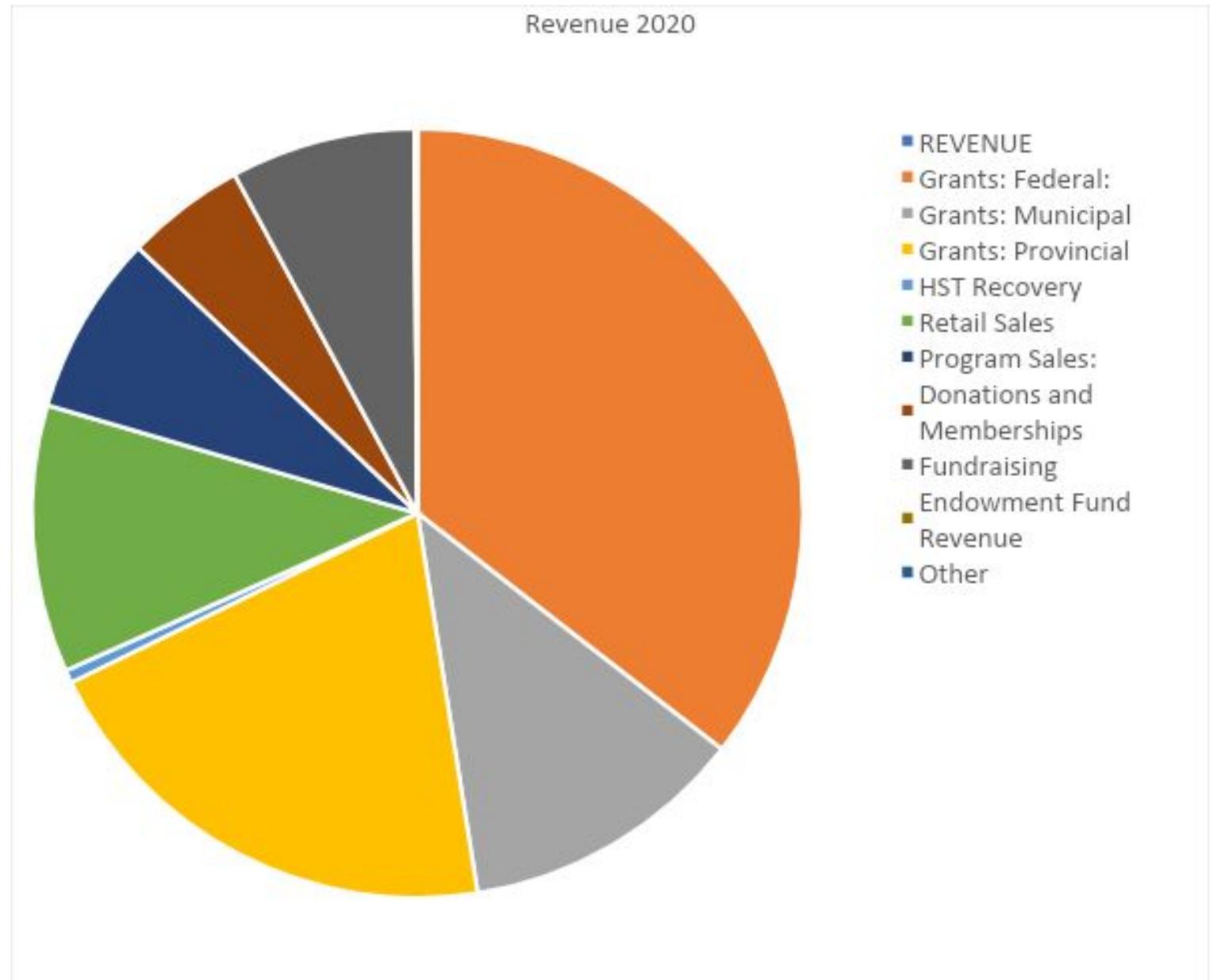
Expenses



Revenue 2019

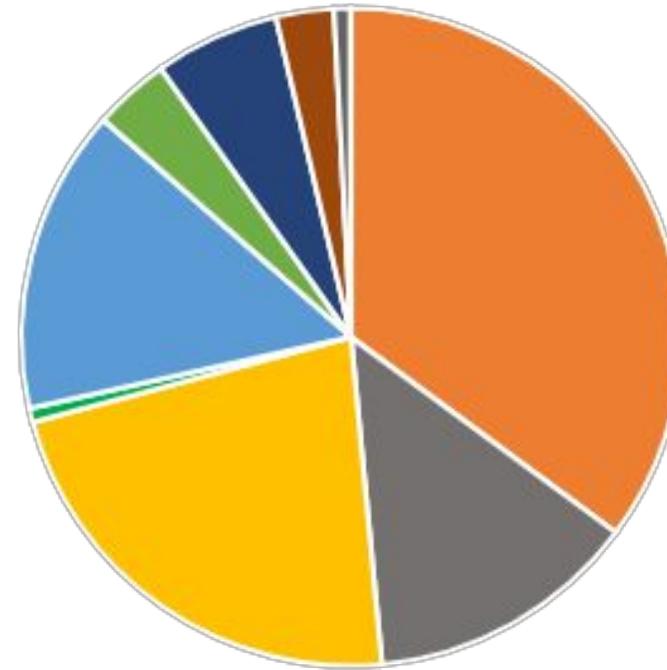


Revenue 2020



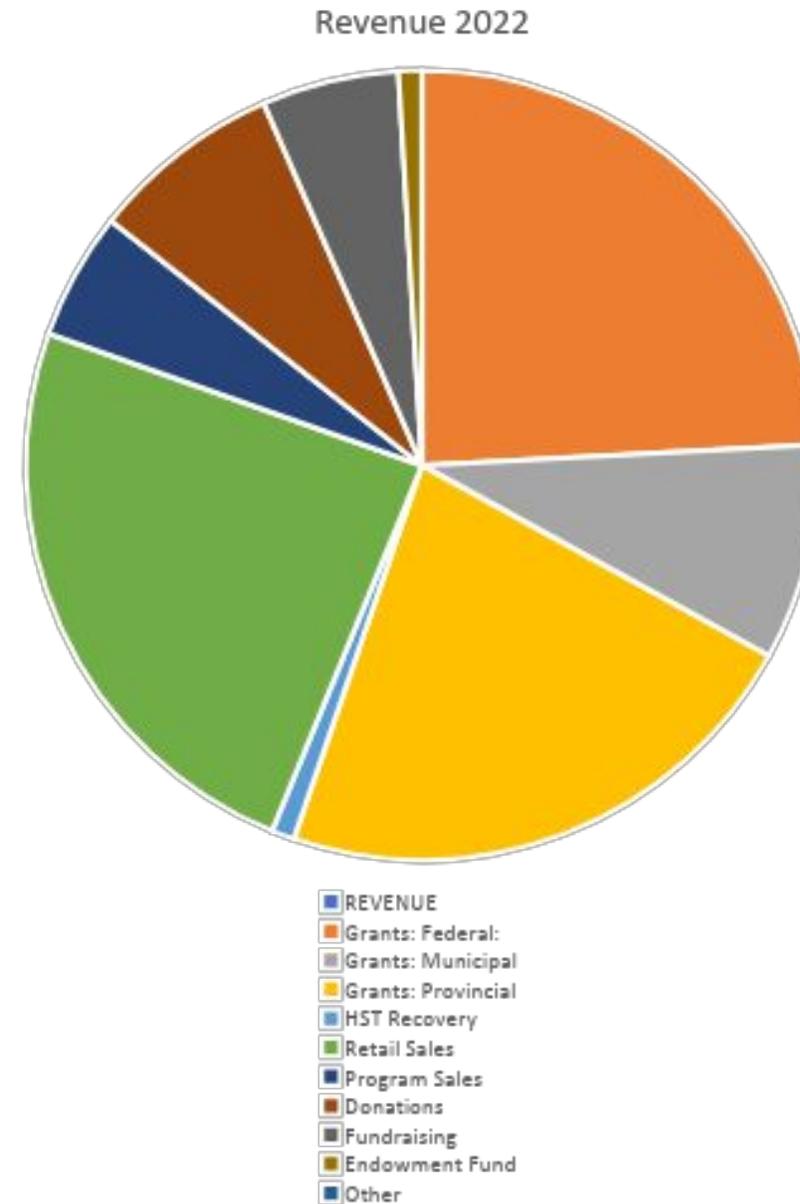
Revenue 2021 -

Budget 2021

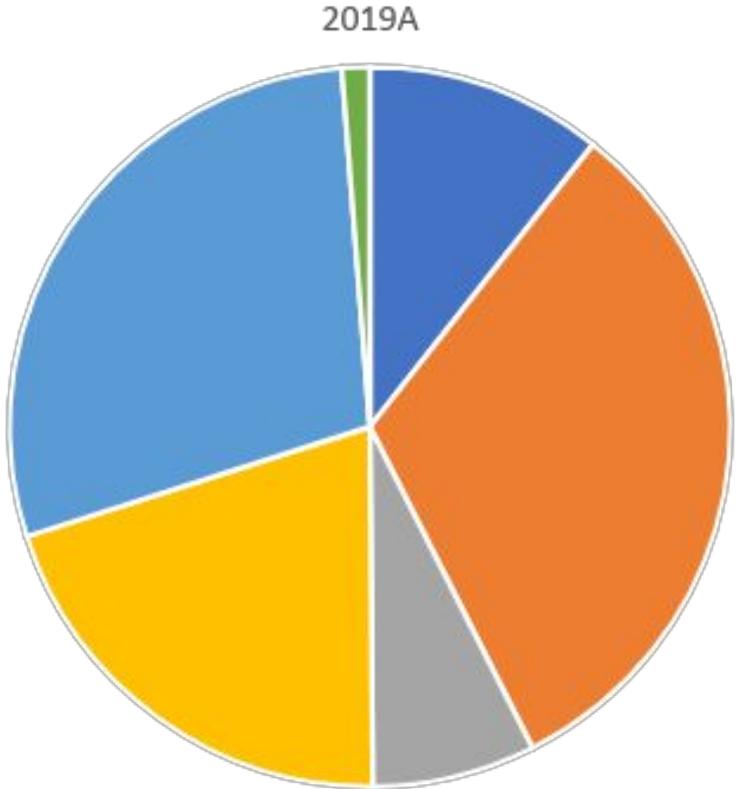


- Grants: Federal:
- Grants: Municipal
- Grants: Provincial
- HST Recovery
- Retail Sales
- Program Sales:
- Donations and Memberships
- Elder Care Fund Revenue

Revenue 2022E

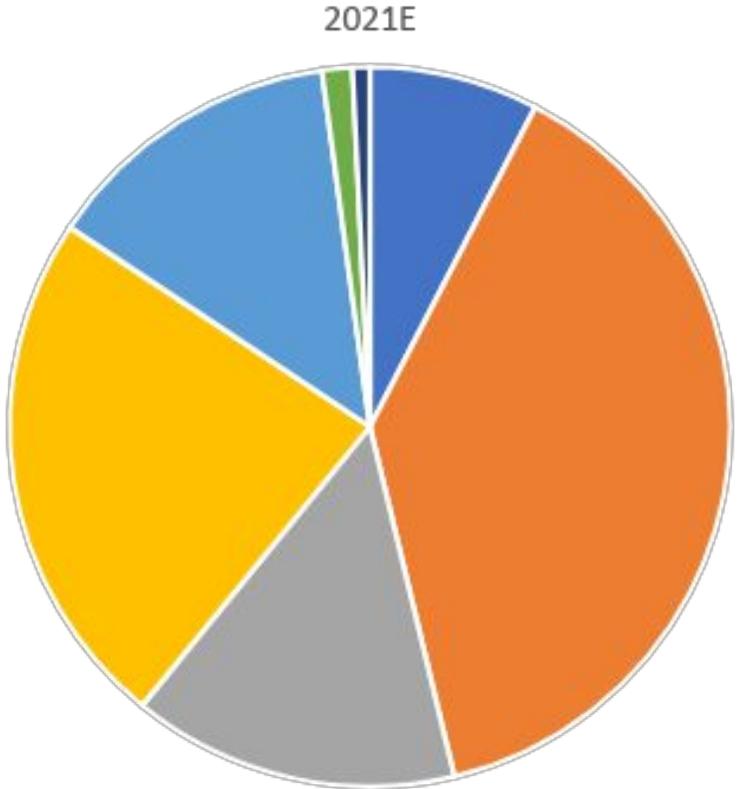


Expenses 2019



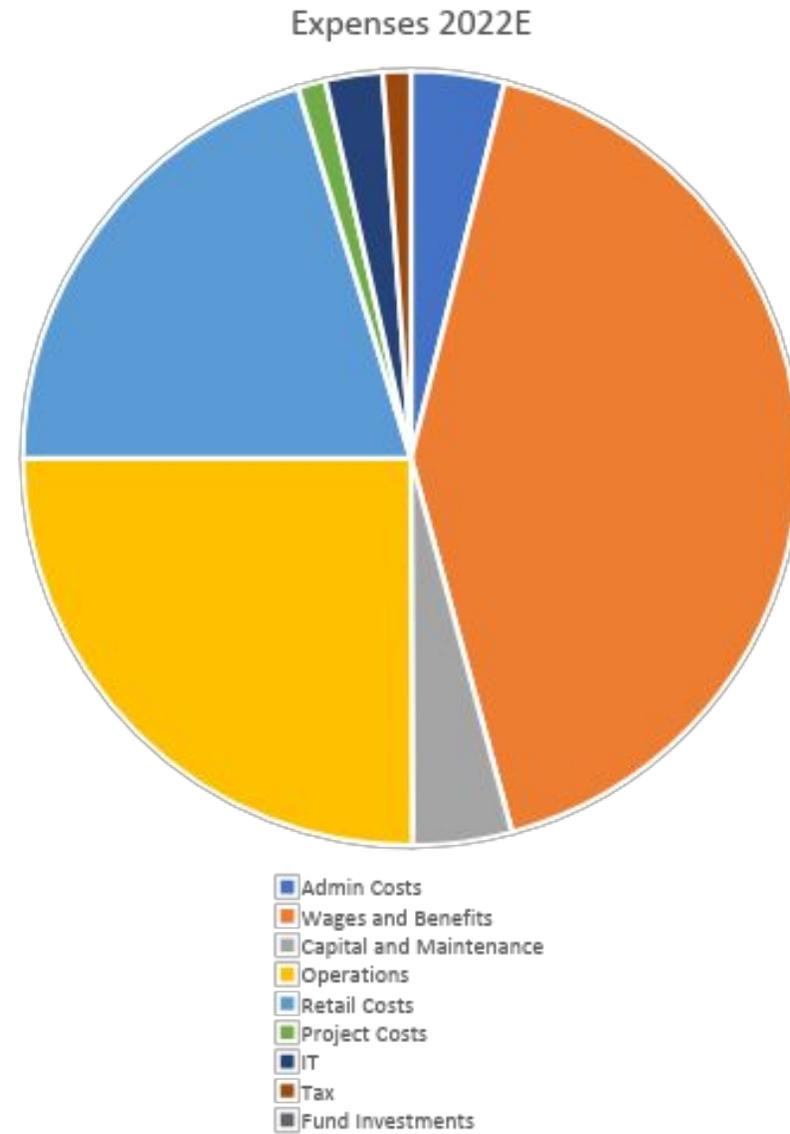
- Admin and IT
- Wages and Benefits
- Capital Projects and Maintenance
- Operations
- Retail
- Tax
- Fund Investments

Expenses 2021



- Admin and IT
- Wages and Benefits
- Capital Projects and Maintenance
- Operations
- Retail
- Tax
- Fund Investments

Expenses 2022E



General Revenues 2022		
1	Grants: Federal:	51,876.00
1A	YCW (Student Employment)	13,250.00
1B	CSJ (Student Employment)	12,626.00
1C	Federal Project/Exhibit	26,000.00
2	Grants: Municipal	16,000.00
2A	Operating	16,000.00
2B	Municipal Other	0.00
3	Grants: Provincial	49,738.00
3A	CMAF	43,279.00
3B	SCSDP (Student Employment)	4,459.00
4	Grants Other (HST Recovery)	2,000.00
5	Retail Sales	52,000.00
6	Donation Box	6,000.00
7	Donations & Membership	10,800.00
8	Program Sales/Fee for Service	5,200.00
9	Fundraising	12,000.00
10	Blackshop Shop Commissions	6,000.00
11	Endowment Fund	2,050.00
	Total General Revenues	211,664.00
Capital Revenues & Expenditures		
Revenues		
2C	HRM Capital	3,000.00
3C	Prov NS Built Heritage	
	Total Capital Revenues	3,000.00
Expenditures		
17A	Eco Park & Walk	0.00
17B	Blacksmith Shop/Naugle Shed	3,000.00
	Total Capital Expenditures	3,000.00
Total General Revenues + Capital Revenues of 214,664		

General Expenses 2022		
1	Livestock	3,300.00
2	Retail Tearoom/Giftshop	18,200.00
3	Advertising & Promotions	1,000.00
4	Bank/Payment Processing	2,000.00
5	Cleaning Supplies/Paper Products	600.00
6	Fund Raising Costs	1,400.00
7	Insurance	4,450.00
9	Memberships, License, Dues	1,500.00
10	Professional Fees	1,000.00
11	Employee/Volunteer Exps/Recognitio	500.00
12	Museum Programs/Collection	5,600.00
13	Non refundable HST	2,500.00
14	Office/Accounting/Printing/Postage	2,600.00
15	Staff Wages (2.1 FT)	85,000.00
15B	Tearoom Wages	16,000.00
15C	Student Wages	33,094.00
15D	Term/Casual	2,000.00
16	MERCS (CPP, EI, Vacation Pay)	13,100.00
17	Repairs & Maintenance/Grounds	5,400.00
18	Equipment/IT/Security	2,620.00
19	Utilities	9,300.00
20	Meeting House	0.00
21	Special Project/Website Updates	500.00
22	Capital Reserve Fund	0.00
	Total General Expenses	211,664.00
Total General Expenses + Capital Expenses of \$214,664		

**Cole Harbour Rural Heritage Society
Annual General Meeting
March 29, 2022**

Chair of the Board of Director's Report

To the Members of the Cole Harbour Rural Heritage Society

After the previous AGM held on March 18, 2019, I was elected as the Chair of the Cole Harbour Rural Heritage Society. As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, we were unable to meet at our usual time for an AGM in Spring of 2020, and again in Spring of 2021 HRM found itself in another lockdown. The pandemic guidelines that were in place until last week (March 21, 2022) did not require societies to host an AGM, however, given that it has been over two years since our last meeting, the Board of Directors felt it was appropriate that the membership have an opportunity to meet and be brought up-to-date on the Society's activities since 2019.

As you will see in the financial reports, the Society took full advantage of our very limited seasons in 2020 & 2021 and, with the support of government programs put in place throughout the pandemic, as well as the tireless work of staff and volunteers, the Society is doing well despite not being able to host our annual dinner and auction—our largest fundraising event of the year—for the past two years.

Our Farm grounds and some of our historic buildings were used in the summer and fall of 2020 as filming locations for a Stephen King television project (*Chapelwaite*, available for streaming on Amazon Prime) and our resident blacksmith, Kevin, supplied props and set decoration for the project, as well as several other film and television projects filmed in the province over the past two years. The proceeds of which Kevin has donated back to the Society.

For those that recall our huge success in the 2016 Community Museum evaluations, ranking second among all community museums in the province, our 2020 evaluation (which was postponed to 2021) resulted in an even better score, largely thanks to our staff who updated policies and procedures, improved collections management, organized capital projects, and increased our community engagement, amongst other things. As a result of that hard work from our staff, and a dedicated core of volunteers, the Farm and the Society have not only survived the pandemic but have improved many aspects of the Society.

I look forward to another year as your Chair and encourage anyone interested in the Society in any way to reach out for a conversation about past or upcoming projects, any of the reports provide this evening, volunteer opportunities, or anything else.

All of Which is Respectfully Submitted,



Brennan LeJean, Chair
Cole Harbour Rural Heritage Society

Executive Director's Annual Report for the year 2021
Annual General Meeting, March 29, 2022

2021 was a year of swimming with the tide, as we moved through year two of operating under a pandemic. Despite some restrictions, as a largely open air site and with a degree of "comfort" adapted through 2020, operations of the Cole Harbour Rural Heritage Society and Farm Museum returned to relatively normal levels; buildings reopened, farm animals returned, and smaller outdoor programs were welcomed back. We had a very productive year, once again making the most of the time afforded through the continued suspension of certain activities, and the support and generosity bestowed upon us by so many.

Highlights included the completion of a new exhibit; Crossing the Harbour, the story of the Cole Harbour saltmarsh, the creation of a new program space in the lower Settle Barn, window conservation, re-shingling and exterior painting of the Harris House and Pump House, exterior painting of the Giles House, "Garden Buds" a gardening and recreation program for seniors, and the opening of a volunteer-led working fibre studio. Farm Camp, our summer day camp for young children, returned, along with FarmFest, an outdoor celebration of the harvest season featuring music and food.

2021 was also our Museum Evaluation year, a program administered by the Association of Nova Scotia Museums. Museums across the province receive this comprehensive evaluation on a four year rotation. The program examines all areas of museum operations, from collections and interpretation, to site and facilities care, to governance and management, to fundraising and community engagement. Of particular note, were improvements in Collections Management and Interpretation, something we are extremely proud of. We received a final score of 93.9%, a result which will serve us well in the coming years as we seek continued support for the Society and Farm Museum's mission.

So despite the challenges the pandemic presented over the last two years, I can say with confidence that the organization and the farm museum specifically, has continued to progress in most areas and even flourish in a few. How was this possible? I have made mention in past reports and newsletters of pandemic supports we have received. There is no question that these made the difference to our ability to move forward, to maintain our permanent team and to care for the site and we are incredibly grateful for these programs. Additional to this, and what really allowed us to advance through this strange time, was the contribution of a few unique to us, sustaining programs.

This includes the Blacksmith Shop through the work of volunteer Kevin Thomas. In 2020 Kevin's blacksmithing skills and dedication to the craft were discovered by the NS film industry. Since that time, Kevin has produced, often on a very tight schedule, period film props for now three productions, the most recent work just completed this month. This has been an incredible support.

Another is our turned-on-a-dime foodservice offerings, including our weekly online shop. Begun in fall of 2020, this has grown to include casseroles, soups, and baked goods, made to order and available for pick up each Friday afternoon. The online kitchen was championed by Emma Agombar, our Manager of Environment and Programs (currently on leave) as a way to offer local, wholesome, fresh foods to our community. It is currently led by Paige Antonick and has seen a surge in popularity this winter. Paige, and Magali Kirkbright, who are also the forces behind the Farmyard Takeout have been creating incredible food each week throughout the off season and together will relaunch a reimagined foodservice program when we reopen for indoor, as well as outdoor, service in May 2022.

Farm Camp, our summer day camp for young children, was able to return in 2021 and is another program which has helped to sustain us through the pandemic and which we hope to grow in the years ahead. This week long camp includes activities in gardening and animal husbandry as well as arts, drama and heritage and environmental stewardship, and was revamped last year to meet health restrictions under the attentive direction of our Collections Manager and camp leader extraordinaire, Heather Adams.

Especially rewarding in these challenging times, is the growing role of the Farm as natural oasis, small wildlife refuge, and environmental steward in the community. Dedicated staff and volunteers continue to enhance our glorious gardens, pollinator meadow, native hedgerow, and freshwater wetland. These habitats are connected to the central farmyard and museum facilities through the "Farm Walk", a true nature walk through community history, and are made available for year round enjoyment. Our site maintenance team, Paul Bonang, Wayne Bonang and Robin Kirkbright and senior garden volunteers Karen Rutherford and Barry Gorman continue to invest in the incredible beauty of the farm grounds, and, almost without noticing, have helped us to build not only a rural oasis but a natural oasis that is quite remarkable. Our program partner, beekeeper and entomologist Michelle McPherson, has called us the richest native pollinator grounds in the HRM.

What is next for the Society and Farm? We have, for 2022 at least, cut back a little on the capital program and special projects as we look to regenerate fundraising. We need to rebuild essential revenue pieces lost during the pandemic. A special committee of the Board has been developed to move this forward and will be looking at reviving and revising major events, a new approach to sponsorship, and down the road, a new anchor event. In development for this summer is a music in the farmyard series as well as the return of Fibre Frolic and tentatively Feast as well as a few of our classic favourites.

We are exploring options to improve accessibility, within our physical spaces but also within our interpretation offerings, with a plan to have an accessibility audit completed later this year.

Our next major capital conservation effort must be the Cole Harbour Meeting House. There are a few steps to be taken prior to beginning work including a building and site assessment and we are currently looking for support and partnership in these endeavours and hope to be in a position to begin conservation work by 2023. We also have an exciting archival project in development....more on that in the Collections Report.

In closing, I wish to thank all of those who have stuck with us through the last few years, in so many ways. It really made all the difference to motivation and determination and survival. I would like to thank the Board of Directors, who have emerged from these past two years energized and enthusiastic. And finally, a huge thank you to my team; Heather, Emma, Paige and Magali. These young people really are the future of the organization.

Respectfully submitted,
Janice Kirkbright

**Collections Manager Report
Annual General Meeting 2022
Heather Adams**

Inventory

With the help of a winter collections student, all of the shelves in the Harris House Basement have been investigated, and the items on them recorded. Each item was matched to a collections database entry, where possible, and these entries were corrected when required (for example, locations were changed). Missing items were also recorded.

Any items that could not be matched to a database record were recorded, along with the reason why (number illegible, no number, number incorrect, etc.). These questionable items were then gone through again, in an effort to match them with a database entry. Many of these were resolved, but some remain – the next step is to gather these items together and store them in one place, until they can be investigated further.

Beyond confirming what is and isn't in the basement and on each shelf, there are a couple of action items left. Objects with difficult to read numbers must be re-numbered, and objects identified as un-accessioned must be accessioned. Additionally, there are shelves in the Harris House basement that are either missing (for example, there is no shelf 12), or duplicated (there are three versions of shelf one, in different spots). The shelves also make no physical sense, with shelves 19 and 20 sitting in-between shelf 6 and 7. Therefore, the plan is to overhaul the numbering system in the basement, so the shelves are in a sensible order, and so none are missing or duplicated.

Outside of the Harris House, limited inventory work was completed in the Market Barn, where our winter collections student identified items that were accessioned in our woodworking shop exhibit, and grouped them together. They also photographed all items in the barn's workshop (a non-public space), and identified which were accessioned, and which were not.

Re-organization Project

Work on the Re-organization project continued through Summer 2021 with two summer staff. The upstairs storage room in the Giles House was chosen as the next candidate for the project, and the two staff members performed a collection and room analysis, cleaned out non-collections objects, and began to reorganize the room. I have been investigating the possibility of adding a free-standing shelf to the room; the space is small, and while another shelf would grant more storage space, it may also make it more difficult to move around in the room.

In preparation for the Evaluation, many exhibit and "visible storage" spaces around the farm were cleaned and reorganized. These spaces will still need to be inventoried, and have their storage space analyzed in order to figure out how to make them more efficient, but their current cleanliness and organization will make these tasks much easier.

Digitization

Since mid-September, we have a Young Canada Works Intern working with us on digitizing our artifact collection. She has been methodically working through artifacts in the Harris House basement, photographing them according to best practices for digitization, and creating condition reports for

artifacts that are in poor shape (initially, we had decided to report on every artifact, but this slowed the process significantly, so we decided to move to reporting on just those in poor condition). As of writing, she has photographed the artifacts contained on shelves 1 to 6, and is working through shelves 7 and 8, which she plans to complete before her term is up at the end of the week. She has digitized approximately 600 artifacts in our collection, which is a pretty good chunk! Additionally, on Wednesdays for the past few months, we have been assisted by a student volunteer from NSCC, Bryce, whose last day with us is tomorrow (Wednesday, March 30th).

Interpretation

This summer, many of you may have noticed the brand new exhibit in the Crib Barn, called Crossing Cole Harbour! Made to parallel the farm's virtual exhibit on Virtual Museum of Canada, which is called Crossing Cole Harbour: From Ferry to Dyke then Rail to Trail, this exhibit is a culmination of work from multiple students, myself, and Kevin Thomas, who helped us with the installation. Just like it's virtual predecessor, the exhibit examines the Cole Harbour Salt Marsh, and how it affected, and was affected by, the people who lived on its shores.

Another exciting new interpretive area is the Fibre Studio in the upstairs Market Barn! It has been created with the goal of encouraging fibre artists to join us and perform demonstrations of their work for visitors, as well as to provide interpretation on fibre processing and artistry. To go along with this, with the help of Paige, our fantastic tearoom cook, I have started a craft night at the farm! Currently, we have had one meeting, attended by eight people (including me), and we're planning another one for April. We hope to make it at least monthly, and plan to continue through the summer. We have named ourselves Cole Harbour Crafting Corner!

Future Projects

As winter ends and spring begins, we are looking towards future projects! Currently, I am developing an application for the Provincial Archival Development Program, to ask for funding to complete a project on our extensive collection of oral histories! Just yesterday (Monday, March 28th) I met with CNSA Archives Advisor Sharon Murray to discuss the project and how I could approach it, and I am very excited to get the application written and in!

As well, we have been approached by a volunteer interested in writing and uploading stories based on Cole Harbour history to our website! We are very excited at this prospect, so stay tuned for more information on that at a later date!

BELL HERITAGE TRUST – ANNUAL REPORT year 2020 and 2019

A Brief History –The Bell Heritage Trust and its relationship to the Cole Harbour Rural Heritage Society

The Bell Heritage Trust is a testamentary trust created by the Will of the late Barbara Bell who died on August 15th, 1999. Barbara Bell was a founding member of the Society and served on the Societies Board of Directors for many years. Miss Bell, by her will directed that her personal residence and surrounding land located at 1445 Cole Harbour be transferred to the Bell Heritage Trust. The Residence, known as the “Bell House,” is a 200+ year old building with a Provincial and Municipal Heritage Designation and sits on nearly two acres of land at the top of Long Hill with a magnificent, iconic view of the Cole Harbour Salt March below. The object of the Trust is “to hold the premises in good condition for the benefit of the residents of Cole Harbour and all other Interested persons in cooperation with any government body or Department with similar interests.”

To assist the Trust in its efforts, Miss Bell directed that the sum of \$275,000 be transferred to the Trust with the income to be used to secure, improve, and maintain the premises with the proviso that any surplus income could be used for the improvement and maintenance of any similar trust property in Nova Scotia. The Trustees could not use the capital of the Trust.

The Will also directed that there be four trustees of the Trust, two appointed by the Cole Harbour Rural Heritage Society and one each by the TD Trust Company and the Department of Natural Resources. The latter two both declined to participate. In 2017 this changed by Court Order to allow the Cole Harbour Heritage Society to appoint all four directors with the condition that at least two must not be members of Society.

Renovations and improvements to the Bell House and rental

The Trustees determined that the best use for the premises was to rent it out as a residential dwelling. This would require significant renovations and improvements to prepare the property for that purpose.

In 2017 we did considerable work on the building including a new septic field and tank, new doors and windows and considerable repairs to the exterior and interior of the building which has made it tighter and rentable. In 2018 we concentrated on the exterior of the house and had it professionally painted with a quality paint and installed new gutters and downspouts. In late 2019 we had the Bell House properly insulated which greatly improved the efficiency of the building. In 2020 the premises were vacant again and we took the opportunity to make significant improvements to the interior, stripping wallpaper, repairing plaster, trim and painting. We had the services of a professional painter, but many hours of volunteer labour were put in by your Trustees, our Advisory Board, and volunteers. Thank you so much for a lot of hard work.

We believe that we now have an extremely attractive rental unit and have been successful in acquiring a new tenant, a young family with two children. They pay a reasonable rent and are responsible for utilities and grounds upkeep. We are pleased with them as tenants, and they seem to enjoy the premises.

We need to replace the roof this year and we continue to have challenges but believe these are manageable.

Finances

We operate on a break-even basis. We cannot run a deficient as we do not have the money and we do not want to operate at a profit as more than half, 54%, would have to be paid to the Government in the form on income tax. At the time of the writing of this report we have approximately \$25,000 in our chequing account but we will soon have to pay for a new roof. Th balance in our Trust Fund with CIBC, Wood Gundy is approximately \$257,000 which is a significant improvement. We continue to have challenges, but we believe that the Trust is sustainable, and the Bell House has many good years ahead.

In Conclusion, I would like to thank my fellow Trustee, Susan Corser, and our advisory committee, Kevin Thomas, Carol Bradley, and Terry Eyland, for their support, dedication, counsel, and hard work.

Respectfully Submitted by: Alan Mitchell, Chair, Board of Trustees

Cole Harbour Rural Heritage Society

Annual General Meeting, March 29, 2022

Report of the Nominating Committee

To the Members of the Cole Harbour Rural Heritage Society

On behalf of the Nominating Committee of the Cole Harbour Rural Heritage Society, the following list of names is respectfully submitted for the Board of Directors to serve the Society for the coming year.

Cooper, Ron

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Respectfully Submitted:

Alan Mitchell, Chair,
Nominating Committee, CHRHS