

Give the Gift of Sorrento
this holiday season!



*2021: Celebrating 58 years as
“a gathering place for all”!*

What's inside:

- 2020: a year in the life of our Centre... page 2
- Looking ahead to a dynamic 2021... page 3
- Navigating the storm: Financial update... page 4
- Two new ways to show your love... page 5
- Give a practical gift this holiday season... page 6

www.sorrentocentre.ca

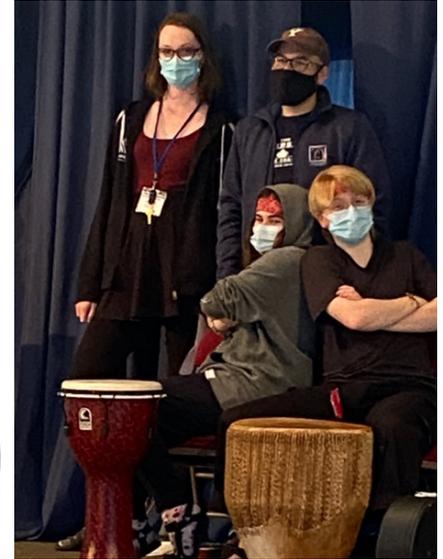


2020 - a year in the life of the Sorrento Centre:

Engaging people, inspiring places and nourishing programs defined 2020, COVID-19 forced us to close our doors for five months this year, but we still offered plenty of learning, healing, belonging, resting + relaxing



Good food: Starting in April, our kitchen prepared tasty breakfast, lunches and dinners and safely delivered them to hungry people throughout the region. The work continues - by the end of October, more than 14,000 meals had been delivered.



Safe, slow, small: After a 'pause' from March to June, we launched a gradual re-opening with our 'safe, slow, small' plan. A glorious eight weeks of summer featured spirited musician-in-residence Kevin Zakresky. We welcomed quilters and other guests, as well as RVers / tenters seeking rest and relaxation.

Growing stronger: We launched new projects throughout our main campus and natural farm - everything from a major reno of cabana 7 (thanks to the Taylor clan) to a new water feature and plants in the Memorial Gardens to refreshing of St Francis Chapel and the A frame and an upgrade to our commercial kitchen.



Growing in spirit: We welcomed St Mary's - including a baptism - and Wild Church BC. We celebrated multi-faith initiatives throughout the year.

Let the sunshine in: Adding 32 solar panels to the array on Spes Bona boosted our clean, green energy production by 150% in the first full month of operation.



Strong connections: Secwepemc storyteller Kenthen Thomas was beamed from our new virtual hub in Spes Bona across the province. The new smart technology allows us to connect with our neighbours and the world. The smart technology is the first of its kind in the South Shuswap and has been used for a growing number of on-line events.



Looking ahead to 2021: Old favourites return, exciting new events added

Five weeks of summer: At the heart of our summer, special programs to nourish body, soul and spirit. Each week is unique, Throughout the year, we offer spiritual and interfaith events and activities.

- July 11 to 16: Get Outdoors!
- July 18 to 24: Creative Self-Expression!
- July 25 to 30: Celebrate Summer!
- Aug 1 to 6: Celebrate Families!
- Aug 8 to 13: Celebrate Diversity!



Hitting a high note: NimbleFingers is back for two weeks of bluegrass from Aug 22 to Sept. 3 - with the big bluegrass festival on Aug. 28. The whole campus will be humming and strumming! Not just banjos, there's ukuleles in June, BC Swing Camp in August, summer music camp, and music throughout the year!

Fabric and fibre arts: Sorrento Quilt Week returns from April 12 to 16. Throughout the year, the Sorrento Centre serves as a regional centre for quilting, scrapbooking, dyeing and other fabric and fibre arts groups.



Get outdoors, get active: We host yoga on our waterfront in the summer, and on our main campus throughout the year; we offer hiking, bicycling, snowshoeing, cross-country skiing in the beautiful Shuswap region; we welcome RV and tents for private stays in our campgrounds; and invite people to get engaged in our natural farm. There's even letterboxing!



Dozens of week-long, weekend and day-events planned - more being added

Check our website regularly for updates: www.sorrentocentre.ca

There are lots of great activities and events being planned... as soon as details are confirmed and registration is open, then the events will be added to our on-line events calendar on our website.

The Sorrento Centre puts a priority on the health and well-being of our guests, staff and neighbours. We meet and exceed public health and WorkSafeBC rules and guidelines. It is difficult to predict the health situation six months and more into the future. We regularly monitor the dynamic public health environment and will notify guests and booking groups if changes are required to ensure health and safety.

Upcoming events listed on our home page // all events in the calendar in the top bar menu

Navigating the storm: A turbulent year for our finances

Three financial realities in 2020 (a report to our friends and supporters):

COVID losses: The financial impact of COVID closure from March to June (and from mid-November), as well as pandemic restrictions from July to November, was \$700k in lost income from cancelled events and fewer guests. Earned income adds up to 70% of our revenues.

Cost constraints: While seeking to protect core staff from financial hardship, we cut expenses in 2020. With prudent financial management, we cut expenses by 11% while still making modest investments in people, place and program – thanks to grants and donors.

New revenues: Our “other revenues” grew by 550% - this includes the federal wage subsidy, emergency meal program and other initiatives. We increased private RV and tenting stays; secured grants and donations for important initiatives and boosted donations from our generous supporters. This is a big increase in new revenues, but, sadly, not as big as the COVID-related losses to earned income.

The bottom line: New revenues plus cost constraints sheltered us from the worst of the financial impact of COVID, but we expect to run a deficit for some months to come. Thanks to new revenues and generous donors and granting organizations, we have avoided the fate of other retreat centres (some of which ceased operations). We look forward confidently to a more financially stable 2021 leading to a robust 2023 (our 60th anniversary).



The year in numbers: Key figures year-to-date (to the end of November):

Total earned income (program fees, meals + accommodation):

2020 - \$186,914	2019 - \$879,721	%change - down 79%
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Total other revenue (federal wage subsidy, off-site meal program, other new revenues):

2020 - \$291,229	2019 - \$44,801	%change - up 550%
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Total expenses (total operational costs of the Sorrento Centre):

2020 - \$1,205,150	2019 - \$1,350,565	%change - down 11%
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Cash summary (operational deficit):

2020 - negative \$141,329	2019 - negative \$96,174	%change - up 47%
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Key to our financial stability: Continue to diversify revenues, including donations

The Sorrento Centre is a non-profit and charitable organization. Instead of generating profits for our shareholders, we seek to offer value to our guests and our neighbours. Our revenues mostly come from earned income (meals, accommodation + program fees) – plus grants, donations and other revenues. We publish monthly Monitoring & Evaluation reports on our website (click on About Us and then Board + Finance + Governance. *You can make a safe + secure on-line donation directly from our website.*



Sorrento60: Join our special 60th anniversary circle!

The Sorrento Centre will celebrate our 60th anniversary in 2023.

We are Anglican in tradition, ecumenical and interfaith in our expression, and generous in our welcome. We aspire to be a “holy place of transformation for learning, healing and belonging.”

We invite our friends to join a special circle of sustaining supporters.

Donate \$60 a month (or select another amount from \$6 per month to \$600 or more) through a safe + secure on-line link or calling our office.

Your financial support will be an investment in new programs and activities, as well as maintaining our lands and buildings.

Sorrento60 donors will be recognized in a special display in Spes Bona!

Safe + secure on-line link: Visit www.sorrentocentre.ca and click on Sorrento60 in the top menu
Or call our office at 1-866-694-2409 (local 250-675-2421).

Two new ways to show your love for the Sorrento Centre...

Introducing... the Melissa Green Fund for the Sorrento Centre

The Sorrento Centre Foundation is a project of lifelong supporters of Sorrento Centre. We are an independent registered Canadian charity and operate independently of the Centre. In 2020, we established a new fund with the support of the Sorrento Centre Board and one of Sorrento’s most beloved leaders: Melissa Green. This fund will help people and families who would love to come to Sorrento Centre but face financial barriers. The fund subsidizes the cost of programs, with dignity and confidentiality. Anyone can apply, and recipients are selected by the Foundation and Sorrento Centre, as funds allow.

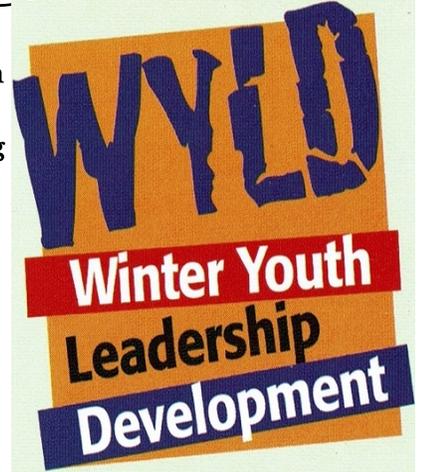


Please donate by sending a cheque to Melissa Green Fund, Sorrento Centre, 1159 Passchendaele Road, Sorrento, BC, V0E 2W0; or online at Canada Helps: <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/sorrento-centre-foundation/>. Donations can be directed for use in current year, or for investment for future years. Please include your address or email address for a tax receipt. This fund is managed by the Foundation and not the Centre.

Thank you for helping the Foundation bring the beauty of Sorrento Centre to more people and families.



WYLDlife: We launched the first cohort of our newest program for young adults in mid-September. WYLD builds on a legacy of winter youth programs stretching back to 1965. Youth engage with each other and the wider world on food security, climate change, homelessness, Indigenous issues, anti-racism, gender identity. WYLD works on our campus and farm and in the community. Cohort 2 begins in January and the third cohort in September 2020.



Give the Gift of Sorrento this holiday season!

The Sorrento Centre has many special friends – some have been joining us every summer for decades. Many call us a place of welcome, a “thin place” where new friendships form and old friendships are nourished; ideas are exchanged; and community is formed.

We are inviting our friends to donate to the Sorrento Centre – on-line or by phone. You can make a donation on behalf of family or friends as a special holiday gift.

Special offer: Join the Sorrento60 circle or make a single donation of \$720 or more and we’ll send you our wonderful Grace in the World prayer flag hand-crafted by fabric artist Kathy Kinsella! Each flag is unique. A wonderful treat for yourself or as a gift!



Your financial gift – in your own name or on behalf of another – nourishes the life and work of the Sorrento Centre. From practical support for everyday operations to beautifying our lands to enriching our farm to deepening our spiritual lives (through Anglican and interfaith programs), your donation will help meet great and good needs.



Go to: www.sorrentocentre.ca and click “Donate Now”
Call 1-866-694-2409 / 250-675-2421