

IWRS NEWSLETTER

The first 6 months

| Auction Outcome

| Land preparation

Thank YOU!

We thank you for your continued support and are thrilled to see how many people in our greater Okanagan communities want to contribute, be part of the change we want to see and that rehabilitation of individual animals and population management do NOT have to be opposites!! Thank you for truly caring about our wildlife!

Acknowledgements

We are humbled and grateful to be able to promote co-existence with wildlife on unceded Sylix Okanagan Nation territory and to be granted use of part of the Summerland private property moving forward. **We are not yet operational and are pending permits to accept wildlife in the future.**

HOWEVER, we are collecting funds and in-kind building materials in order to build first structures.

Which good news first?!

Our future facility starts here!

- We have been **granted to use a 3 acre parcel** of private undeveloped old farm land, which is located at the foot of Cartwright Mountain within the District of Summerland!



Property available to use for IWRS

- The land (zoned partly AI, partly ALR) belongs to the **Laidlaw family**, who lives there, uses the front of the property for keeping horses and **has generously allowed us** to use the back part to build up our wildlife rehabilitation centre.
We are planning to occupy this unused parcel to build temporary structures and enclosures for various species of wild animals needing care.
- It comprises of a small creek and a riparian zone, is partly wooded with poplars and pine trees, and has a little old barn on it, providing great natural habitat and giving it some country charm. The far side of this parcel even borders to



From the president

More continuing education coming up for us this summer!

In 2019 I have interned under rehabilitator Melanie Whalen for several weeks at the Calgary Wildlife Rehabilitation Society, AB.

Last summer I became a mentee under Angelika Langen at the Northern Lights Wildlife Shelter in Smithers, BC.

This summer I will do another internship, a little closer to home. Paige McKnight from the BCWP Rehabilitation Team in Kamloops has invited me to increase my practical knowledge in rehabilitation with local species of the Thompson Area.

I am truly grateful to all my mentors and supporters!

Eva Hartmann



some steep natural terrain, partly private, partly crown land, but definitely away from any hustle and bustle of human us.

- At this moment, we are in the brainstorming phase to design our

facility smart and useful in order to be able to obtain an operating permit by the Ministries. We are in contact with other rehabilitation centres in order not to „re-invent the wheel“.



3 acres of unused farm land in Summerland, BC

We are in the process of deciding which species to build for, what makes sense to build indoor as well as terrestrial, aquatic outdoor enclosures for...

- As always, within the applicable **permit rules** for our wildlife management region, within **our means**, in **co-operation** with existing facilities in the province and to **fulfil the need** to provide a community-service.
- Yes, it is going to be a balancing act, but we're up for the challenge! And we're on track with our mission and milestones!!

Wishlist

Check out our wishlist and/or share it far and wide!

- **For storage:** 20-foot shipping/ construction container (used or new)
- **Building materials:** plywood (e.g. 3/4" OSB), wood planks (e.g. 2x4's), chain link fencing, hardware cloth, construction panels
- **Tools :** skill saw, power drill etc.
- **Cleaning/farm equipment:** free standing laundry tub/sink, pitch fork, wheel barrows etc.
- **Lightly used hospital equipment:** baby scale, exam table, stainless steel sink, infant incubators e.g. ("BabyWarm"[®])

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Rehabilitation Society

Our first fundraiser complete!

Shout out to all our auction winners and 72 prize donors!!! We've had so many awesome local items to bid on, this year hosted by KelownaNow (we've linked to their article about our auction, simply go here: interiorwildlife.ca/news).

Our WILD ABOUT SPRING 2021

online auction raised:

\$ 8044.99 !

What a great outcome to our first EVER fundraiser! Our fundraising committee has worked tirelessly to put this online event together - a big job done well by our volunteers **Jill, Glenna, Corinne, Emily, Isabella and Barb!** Bravo!

What's next?

- We are mapping out a utility and storage shed, agricultural water is available, power is on it's way to get installed. A secondary dwelling is allowed on the property. However, until funds allow for a larger structure, we may look at having volunteers sleep in a trailer while undertaking building projects.



- Also, we are in the early developing phase of **wildlife education programming** and are defining our mission in this branch of our work. We are compiling materials, connecting with relevant academics as well as wildlife professionals, thanks to our members **Emily, Teri** and Corinne. This is an ongoing process involving „unearthing“ rehabilitation & education grants for future applications, updating our webpage with useful educational material and making meaningful and long-lasting connections.