

NICHIREN BUDDHA HOKKEKO SOCIETY®

BC Non Profit Number **S-48418**

A Federal Registered Charity # **BN8591688833RR001**

2018 Annual General Meeting Sunday 25th November 2018

Celebration of nearly 3,000 years since the establishment of the Buddha Dharma

Celebration of 798 Years since the Sage Nichiren Daishonin was born

Celebration of the 16th AGM of Nichiren Buddha Hokkeko Society®

Celebration of 33nd Bodhi Anniversary our Founder/Teacher/Monk, N. Henry

16th Annual Nichiren AGM meeting held at McLay Heritage Guest House, Hostess Teresa Emory

Meeting called to Order at Noon with serving of Light Luncheon and Social gathering.

Meeting Secretary: Moved by *Kelly Robertson* that Penny Kellett be recording Secretary

Seconded by: John Arthur Douglas Passed UNAM Penny accepts

Attendance: Board Members: Kelly Robertson, Henry Landry, Penny Kellett-Landry,

Members in Attendance: Teresa Emery, Maria Hiles

Guests: John Arthur Douglas, Michael Richard Helmer Keir

Regards from: Cori, in Belgium, Laurie, in New Westminster, Tina Foster

Vision/Mission of the *Nichiren Buddha Hokkeko Society*: Read by: Kelly Robertson

- 1] To educate all seekers in the philosophy of the Buddha's peaceful teachings.
- 2] To offer educational, benevolent and spiritual community services through the Buddha-way of faith, practice, study and meditation
- 3] To accept members into the Nichiren Buddha Hokkeko Society of Vancouver Island
- 4] To practice in the Nichiren Tradition, in association with Nichiren Shu, of Japan, in co-operation with all Buddhist Organizations as One Buddha ~ Many Traditions

Old Business: Short Reading of 2016 AGM, read by: Maria Hiles

There being no business arising from last years minutes meeting moved to 16th Annual Report.

ADMINISTRATORS 16TH ANNUAL REPORT: 2018 - Year of Hope

Before moving on to our Business Report, we would like to recognize our many Volunteers who have stepped up and assisted with the work and vision of our pioneering efforts here at our Nichiren Buddha Society, Peace Center: ***Board Member, Kelly Robertson, John Arthur Douglas and family, Michael and Linda, as always Allan and Karen, and those who simply showed up and gave of their time and energy.***

To ***Desmond Quinn*** family for their generous financial donation in securing the services of receiving our Official Drawings for our future permanent Nichiren Buddhist Temple. To all who came and volunteered in 2018, we thank you, may you receive much merit. To those I have missed I sincerely apologize.

Community Focus

Our Community Buddhist Society is a faith based Society whose goal is to assist all who seek spiritual sustain-ability and peaceful means in their lives. This is achieved through weekly Buddha Discovery Services, Meditation Services, Personal, Group and Annual Retreats, Weekly Study, Life Skills Coaching, Personal Counselling, Hospice work, Hospital and Home Visitation, local Community service work in this past ***Year of Hope***. We took part in the planning and work of the 4th BC Buddhist Festival in Vancouver, in harmony with Sixty One other Countries, Buddhist Teachers/Messengers/Monks/Nuns, from the various Buddhist Temples, One Buddha - Many Traditions. The Festival drew approximately 8,000 visitors local and from so many Countries. This year so very special as the ***Buddha's Relics*** were brought from Shr Lanka to Canada, a lifetime opportunity. The Cultural aspects were spectacular. Our Teacher/Spiritual Guide, Mok was one of the Keynote Speakers at the 2018th Buddhist Festival. Thank you Kelly for your editing and suggestions to make our talk one of value to all who were able to hear the words and sharing of our *Nichiren Buddhist Tradition*.

Again, this past year we have worked with supporting people in need with several Hospital visits including those people suffering from addictions and mental issues. We supported with some of those who came to our Retreat Centre for Life Skills assistance and Counselling services, offered freely to all who come to us seeking to awaken to their holistic BE-ing. We are open to people of all cultures, faiths and backgrounds. Our Buddhist goal to free people from their suffering and to share with them in their happiness.

As friends of our greater Cowichan Valley Community we have supported, the Kinsol Trestle Foundation, TransCanada Trail, Cowichan Valley Trails; our local Library, have made a donation to our Foundation for a new Cowichan District hospital, as well as the Red Cross for their World Wide Emergency work. We continue our work as Spiritual Care Worker/Chaplain for Cowichan Valley District Hospital as well Victoria General and Jubilee Hospitals in Victoria, Nanaimo Regional Hospital in Nanaimo, BC. We support the Cowichan Green Community and the work they do and look forward to participating in the coming year with the Farm Seeding Project which will run from May to October.

Visitations

During 2018 we did 9 **Hospital visits, 17 Home Visitations**; offering Buddhist services, life skills coaching, helping the sick, assisting with Will preparations. We held four Formal Buddhist Tea Ceremonies. Offered one Funeral Service. Once again the year we have been busy with personal counselling for people coming forward seeking assistance with life's difficulties in body, mind and spirit, including several homeless persons.

Board of Directors

We will be making some changes in our Board of Directors here today at our 16th Annual AGM, as we thank the current Board Members; **Kelly, Shelly, Arnie, Penny and N. Henry** for their dedication, suggestions and Board membership his past year. Retiring from the Board this year will be Janet Curley; while **Teresa Emory** will allow her name to stand as a new Board Member.

2018 RETREATS

This past year our Nichiren Buddhist Hokkeko Society offered four Group Retreats, and four Personal Retreats. We had thirty two days of people staying in our *Retreat Huts*. For those who came for personal spiritual guidance. The Group Retreats included: *the Seven Day Tien Tai Silent Mindfulness Retreat* with a total of four people in attendance for the whole week and three persons who came to take part in a day or two. We offered a Retreat on Meditation and Mindfulness, and had to cancel two Retreats due to health difficulties of our Teacher/Messenger. Our Wednesday Evening Meditation is very sparsely attended, but we are still happy to offer it weekly. While our Thursday morning Meditations with Study have been fun and rewarding to those attending.

OnLine and Social Media

We continue to use Social Media in a careful and secure manner. A big step this year We have was to hire Market2All, Paul MyCroft's company in Ladysmith to manage a good part of our Website including our Newsletter and more importantly ensuring all security issues are in place and updated regularly. While keeping our **ISP Server** that we have used since 1994, at Island Hosting in Victoria. We have increased our use of **InstaGram** while being responsible on our **Facebook** pages. Our secure website at www.VIRetreats.com continues to be a valuable source of daily, weekly and monthly information to all who visit there. On average we receive over 300 visits a month. Our weekly Buddha Blog continues to go out with the first one of the month our NewsLetter through; *Market2All*. Thanks to Paul MyCroft for his encouragement and assistance with our website. Our monthly Fee for his Services now come to \$50.00 a month.

Everyone is invited to bookmark and visit our website at www.VIRetreats.com view our Videos and seek the knowledge on the many pages of Buddhist information. Our website offers links to You Tube, Learning the Liturgy, many Nichiren and other Buddhist websites. Our Google Analytics show us that we average 375 users a month, over 1,100 page views a month, with 55% finding us one their Computer, 39% on their Mobile Phone, 6% on their Tablets. Visitors are 50% from Canada, 33% from the USA, 2% from the UK, 5% from India, 3% from Germany, 2% from Belgium, with 7% from other world countries.

Fund Raising for 2018

During 2018 we lost over Nine Thousand Dollars of annual fund raising from two of our Business Clients, yet we managed to complete several projects including our new Library building. And the completion of the first Architectural Drawings for our future permanent Nichiren Buddha Lotus Temple. With your permission I will now give our Annual Financial Report.

2018 FINANCIAL REPORT

Financial Report

[Full detail Financial Report available online @ Revenue Canada or by request]

Member Donations	\$ 4,343.75
Books/Retreats/Counsel & Land Legacy Donations	\$.7,665.00
Total Donations	\$ 12,009.90

Total Expense \$ 17, 670.55 Total Donations: \$ 12,009.90

SAD [Supporting Anonymous Donations] \$ 5,660.65

Total Donations \$ 17,670.55

Cash in Bank October 31st, 2018

Chequing A/C: \$ 93.12 Land Legacy: \$20.75

Our \$2,000 in our Water Fund was depleted with the purchase and completion of our New Library. We will need to restart our Land Legacy Water Well Fund Raising.

Assets and Inventory: \$ 41,695 [Appendix #1]

Moved by: Maria Hiles

Seconded by: Teresa Emory

that the 2018 Administrators Financial Report be accepted. Passed **UNAM**

Major Events in 2018 “Year of Hope”

As many of you now know one of the the big events of the year was my personal Heart Attack and subsequent Triple Open Heart ByPass Surgery. Which has meant the closing down of Services since 10th of October. What wonderful Critical Health Care Services we have here in BC, which has included five Doctors and many Critical Care Nurses and Aides looking after this aging Teacher/Monk. My recovery is slow and long, but in the long run my minor Heart attack, which I managed to have while I was already at the hospital to make an appointment for a different health procedure; so no ambulance required and the Cardiac Doctor was already in the Emergency Ward. The blessings of the Buddhist Guardians made manifest and practical proof. It is our intention to reopen our Lotus Temple on Sunday 9th of December, as we Celebrate my 33rd Anniversary since taking my Nichiren Vows and in preparation for our New Years Day GanTan Ceremony! Words cannot express my gratitude to Penny and too so many of you who have been such an important part of my Recovery Program; may you receive much merit and practical proof in your life.

During 2018, with the assistance of our Volunteers, Steve, John Arthur, Michael our big Land Legacy Project turned out to be our new Library building, with a cement foundation, woodshed, propane furnace shed and the Generator shed. One of the joys of our new Library is the tiny wood stove to keep body, soul and books warm and dry. Unfortunately this new unexpected project meant we had to dig deep into our Water Well Fund Raising, as explained in my earlier Financial Report. Also this year the pick up truck registered in the name of our Nichiren Buddha Hokkeko Society, as part of our Investments and Inventory had serious motor problems that were completely fixed thanks to our mechanic. Once again we recycled a whole lot of our Maple Leaves with the help of *Doug owner of Wee Chipper company*.

2018 Membership

In 2018 we had 254 *Guests* and 376 *Member*, attend our various Services, including twice weekly, public Meditation, Wednesdays 7 PM and Thursdays 9 AM, along with our Sunday Nichiren Discovery Services, and Retreats. In 2018 a total of **630**, up 90 people from 2017 as people attended the various activities of our Nichiren Buddha Hokkeko Society.® even while we were closed for Services for over two months due to my health issues.

A great joy this year was in welcoming *Teresa Emory* as a new Member of our Nichiren Community. It was a pleasure to welcome her son from Portland, Oregon to this very special Buddhist Ceremony. To those members celebrating Anniversaries in the coming year, we look forward to Meditating for your Health, Happiness and Prosperity. Our core group remains small with fifty eight members and other new persons researching their spirituality. I cannot express in words my joy and thanks for all your efforts as we fulfil our Mission to relieve the suffering of all BE-ings searching for happiness and peace in their lives; here on our two acres that borders on the *BC Heritage* protected water shed of the *Cowichan River*, that we vow to protect!

Our Solar Projects

We continued upgrading to our Solar Project with additional Solar Panels, Batteries and Invertors.

Changes to the BC Non Profit Societies Act

Your Board of Directors completed the new BC Non Profit Society work, by reviewing our By Laws and Constitution and submitted them to the new BceID government website. We have received confirmation of our By Laws and Consitution being upgraded.

Once again, we are grateful to the Volunteers who have been such a big help this past year.

This is my 2018 Report, the floor is now open for new business:

New Business:

Moved by: Kelly Robertson Seconded by: Penny Kellett-Landry Motion passed UNAM

That *Teresa Emory* become a Nichiren Board Member

Moved by: John Arthur Douglas Seconded by: Teresa Emory Motion passed UNAM

That our new Library be named the *N. Henry Library* in recognition of our Nichiren Buddha Hokkeko Society, founder and Spiritual Guide.

The N. stands for NYUDO, this is the designation given by Nichiren to Lay leaders/Monks not living in Monasteries or Temples.

Moved by: Maria Hiles Seconded by: Teresa Emory Passed UNAM

“That 2019 be designated the Year of PROGRESS

There being no further business, our Teacher/Messenger, N. Henry, read a Buddhist Teaching on the Meaning and Practice of KYO

Thank you for sharing 16th Annual AGM together, I deeply respect you

There being no further business then called that the 2018 Annual Meeting close in harmony and unity. Moved by: Penny Kellett-Landry Second by: Teresa Emory Motion Passed UNAM

Thus It Has Been Shared, Respectfully, N.Henry, Founder, Administrator, Monk

Appendix 1]

2018 ASSETS & INVENTORY

Nichiren Buddha Hokkeko [Lotus Society]®

Administration Office: 365 Day Rd. Duncan, BC V9L 3K4

	INVENTORY	Oct. 31st	2016
Altars	320		
Incense	55		
Greetings Cards	48		
Home Alar Sets	94		
Inventory / Books	670		
Sub Total Inventory		1188	
Nichiren Altar		6500	
Temple Furniture			
Buildings &		18,000	
Retreat Huts			
Equipment Tools		5500	
Lending Library Book		3000	
Heritage Mandalas		4000	
2000 Mazda PU Truck		4000	
Total Assets		42,188	