

VTRA

2021 ANNUAL REPORT

ADAPTIVE RIDING

ADAPTED CART DRIVING

STABLE MANAGEMENT

CONNECTION TEAMWORK ACHIEVEMENT



VTRA 2021 ANNUAL REPORT

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Thanking friends, donors and partners



VTRA MISSION AND VISION

**BUILD INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY THROUGH HUMAN
AND HORSE TEAMWORK**

**LEARNING, CONNECTION, AND JOY THROUGH
THE POWER OF HORSES**



ADAPTING AND THRIVING

A message from the President and Executive Director

Many people would describe 2021 as a year filled with "more of the same." Like most of our peers, we continued to adapt and make the necessary changes to ensure our connection with participants and families stayed safe, strong, accessible and relevant.

Throughout 2021, we continued to learn that as a team and volunteer supported organization, we have become quite adept at managing change. We not only adapted, but in most cases thrived because of the amazing continuous support we received from our volunteers, donors, funders, staff and broader community.

For a second year, amidst a global pandemic, VTRA was able to focus on delivering safe, quality programs, planning future programs and while ushering in a new family friendly fundraising event—the VTRA Car Rally!

It is paramount that we recognize and thank our friends and volunteers who continue to step-up and donated their time, talent and resources to VTRA—thank you! We are sincerely grateful for your ongoing support. We simply couldn't do it without you!

As we look forward to 2022, we shift our planning to continue VTRA core programming and work to introduce new opportunities and programs for people of all abilities. We are fortunate to have the team we have and remain grateful for our friends and champions!

*Annie Brothwell, Board President &
Mike Waters, Executive Director*

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Liz Gagel, Head Instructor

2020-21 was very much a year of connection, teamwork and achievement at VTRA. Our Therapeutic Riding Program and Stable Management Program continued to thrive as our core programming. With a few adjustments to ensure the safety of our participants, volunteers, and staff, we were able to continue to ride the waves of the second year of the pandemic.

We are incredibly proud of all the new ideas, new faces and new programming that has occurred over this past year at VTRA.

It was important to us to invite new partnerships in and host different demographic of participants in order to support our community, while keeping our programs thriving.

In 2021, we expanded our Exercise Rider Program in partnership with Full Spectrum Equestrian, who also were on site for eight months, accessing VTRA's facility while their Owner and Coach, Liesl Fulton, was able to facilitate and elevate our Exercise Rider Program. Thank you to Liesl for her sharing her support and expertise!



VTRA also partnered with the BC Therapeutic Riding Association to run a virtual Horse Show this year.

Several VTRA participants entered, competed and placed! Congratulations to those who placed!

Perhaps, our greatest accomplishment was offering summer programs for the first time ever! VTRA offered five weeks of summer camps, and offered vocational, small group, and care home focused programs. The new VTRA Summer Series mini-clinics were open to anyone and were a huge success!

The Volunteer Program continues to be the backbone of VTRA. We remain incredibly humbled by the amazing volunteers who make our programs possible. Thanks to Danielle Drew for her efforts and coordination!

The VTRA staff team also welcomed back Jess Game as a full-time instructor, and with help from Stella French, VTRA worked to mentor six people through the Canadian Therapeutic Riding Association Instructor Certification process. We are privileged to have Mary Vincent, Haley Johnson, Abby Lefeaux, and Kim Scott join our team as Instructors.

NUMBERS SERVED

Mary Vincent, Registration Coordinator
& Danielle Drew, Volunteer Lead

The 2021 program continued to operate at almost maximum capacity. VTRA core programs were well-attended as the Adaptive Riding, Stable Management, and Adaptive Driving program saw plenty of participants, learning and success!



48 participants worked on progressive skills,
53 worked on physical movement & mobility,
37 joined us early riders, and
84 focused on recreation & social skills

Volunteers

Over 200 volunteers worked hard to support the delivery of VTRA programs and collectively donated **7,200** hours to the 2021 Program Year!



VTRA

2021 PROGRAM NUMBERS

ADAPTIVE RIDING

We served 279 participants in our Adaptive Riding program

STABLE MANAGEMENT

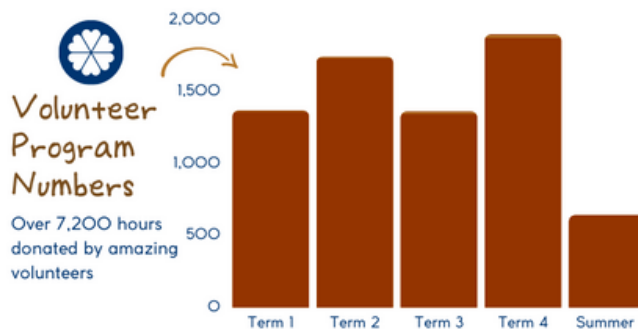
2021 saw 65 participants served

ADAPTED CART DRIVING

2021 supported 8 participants served

Stable Management by programs include:

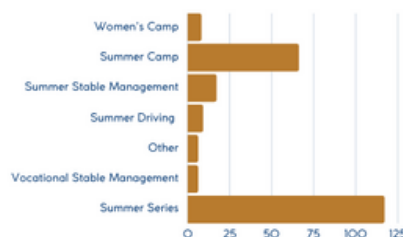
Vocational Stable Mates
Barn Buddies and
Beginner & Intermediate programming



NEW PROGRAMS!

Summer Camps, riding, driving and the VTRA Summer Series

More on offer in 2021!



FUNDING AND ADVANCEMENT

Mike Waters, Executive Director

VTRA continues to explore and work to secure a variety of funding sources to support program development, delivery, operations, herd care and facility upkeep and maintenance.

2021 saw continued support from a number of granting bodies, service clubs and generous donors. VTRA was especially fortunate to receive support from a number of organizations interested in VTRA's unique equine-focused programs.

Core programs continued to generate revenue through the collection of program fees. Participants are asked to pay program fees in conjunction with other community funding schemes to support program costs. VTRA also receives donor directed funds aimed at supporting participants through its own bursary program annually. 3 participants accessed the VTRA Bursary Program in 2021.

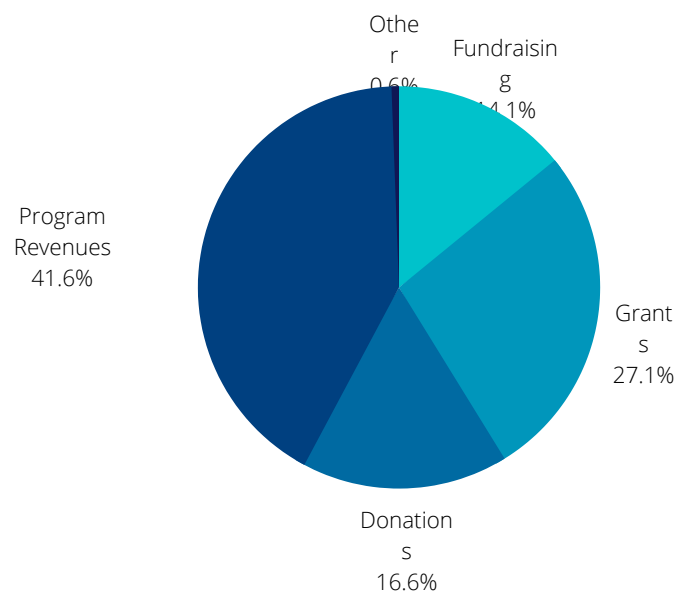


THANK YOU TO OUR 2021 SUPPORTERS!

Despite the ongoing challenges associated with operating during the pandemic, VTRA remained open and operating throughout the year, including through the summer months.

Core program fees, new program starts, and grants received coupled with an increase in individual and service group donations, supported VTRA programming and services in 2021.

Effective pandemic safety planning, operational protocols and ongoing allowed VTRA to continue delivering programming. Thank you to all who worked to deliver safe quality programs!



FUNDERS

VICTORIA FOUNDATION
VANDEKERKHOVE FOUNDATION
CHARLTON L. SMITH FOUNDATION
PUBLIC EMPLOYEES COMMUNITY SERVICES FUND
MCADAMS FOUNDATION
UNITED WAY OF GREATER VICTORIA
WESTHORE ROTARY CLUB
CFAX SANTAS ANONYMOUS
CIBC MIRACLE DAY
BC GAMING
KIDSPORT
JUMPSTART
TELUS
BCTRA



PARTNERS

LIONS CLUB OF CENTRAL SAANICH
SIDNEY KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
SAANICH ROTARY CLUB
HEART LAKE FARM
POWER TO BE
ONE ABILITY
CANTRA
BCTRA

VTRA 2021 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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HEATHER LOVE, DIRECTOR

VTRA STAFF TEAM

LIZ GAGEL, HEAD INSTRUCTOR
DANIELLE DREW, VOLUNTEER LEAD
JESS GAME, INSTRUCTOR
MARY VINCENT, INSTRUCTOR & REGISTRATION COORDINATOR
HAYLEY JOHNSON, INSTRUCTOR
MIKE WATERS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

THANK YOU TO OUR MANY 2021 COMMITTEE VOLUNTEERS