

ISLAND IGNITE MENTORSHIP SOCIETY

2479 Glenmore Road, Campbell River, BC V9H 1C9

www.islandignite.com

info@islandignite.com



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2024 ANNUAL REPORT

SEPTEMBER 29, 2024

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Island Ignite has continued to build on its strong foundation from 2022/23. This year, our dedicated Board of Directors successfully organized our second Island Ignite camp, held in July 2024. In collaboration with the City of Victoria Fire Department and CFB Esquimalt Fire Department, we hosted 31 youth over three full days and two nights. Despite the challenge of coordinating remotely while managing full-time jobs, career development, and family commitments, the camp came together seamlessly thanks to everyone's hard work.

I am particularly grateful for Ella Page, whose efforts significantly broadened our outreach. Her presentations and events in Lantzville and Nanaimo resulted in a higher number of applicants, allowing us to accommodate a more diverse group of participants this year. Additionally, our partnership with the Soroptimists Victoria Westshore earlier in the year blossomed into a promising collaboration with the BeYOUtiful Foundation.

Our program garnered positive attention from Chek News and the Times-Colonist, showcasing our work in a favorable light. This success is largely due to the incredible support from our volunteers, donors, sponsors, and partners, whose physical and financial contributions were crucial in delivering a successful camp.

Thank you to everyone who played a role in making all Island Ignite Mentorship Society events a success!



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HIGHLIGHTS

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We would like to acknowledge the group of 32 volunteers who came out to mentor and instruct at Island Ignite 2024. This was a great chance to see all the incredible women doing this important work in our communities come together for a common goal. Thank you to Jenny Reid for connecting and coordinating all facets of their involvement. I hope each feels inspired to come out again in 2025!

Further thanks to the 31 youth who applied to be part of our organization's second camp. This group of participants came ready to work, committed to making the most out of their experience. Thank you to Liz Johnston for overseeing the coordination of participants and remaining as an accessible resource throughout their camp experience.

Special thanks to Mysha Dewar-McClelland for her willingness to step up at camp and oversee our chaperones and students through all the movement, transitions, and daily challenges associated with camp operations. Mysha continues to inspire us with her positive attitude and quick adaptability!

GOVERNANCE

We have three Board of Director Executive positions which include:

President	Debra Rogers	July 2022-July 2024	DUE FOR ELECTION
Vice-President	Liz Johnston	July 2022-July 2023	July 2023-July 2025
Secretary-Treasurer	Jenny Reid	July 2022-July 2024	DUE FOR ELECTION
Trustee	TBD	July 2024-2025	DUE FOR ELECTION

General objective of our society , according to Section B, Part 1 of our Constitution and Bylaw, is:

The purpose of this organization shall include, but is not limited to, empowering female youth through fire-fighting and related activities and to provide mentorship for females of all ages who are interested in exploring non-traditional work in fire and emergency services.

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MEMBERSHIP

- We do not have a formal membership process as such; however, our outreach and networking allowed us to secure at least 32 individual volunteers as camp Mentors/Instructors during Island Ignite 2024.
- We are maintaining a list and building a roster of capable volunteers.

COMMUNICATIONS

- Our website was launched late 2022 and is maintained and updated by Debra Rogers.
- Our social media portfolio includes Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and YouTube currently. These platforms are used for information sharing, acknowledgement of member contributions, holiday celebrations, and participant/volunteer bios, and industry partner acknowledgement. These are managed and updated by Debra Rogers.
- We have shared pamphlets, posters, and materials with fire departments, school districts, youth groups, and fire service leaders across the island. We remain open to exploring ways to expand our outreach.
- We have enjoyed some local press and publicity and remain committed to expanding our visibility in 2025.
- We have introduced various stickers, buttons, and branded swag to showcase our organization favourably.

EVENTS

- | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| • Dream It, Be It Conference, Victoria, BC | March 5, 2024 |
| • Emergency Services Presentations, Ella Page | Various times in Central Island area |
| • FSWBC Conference, Trade Show Table | April 4-6, 2024 |
| • Island Ignite 2024 | July 12-14, 2024 |
| • BeYOUtiful Foundation, Langford, BC | November 2, 2024 |

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FINANCIALS

- Island Ignite 2024 cost approximately \$15K to run.
- We received a Vancity Branch Grant of \$500, a BC Hydro Grassroots Grant of \$1000, and Island Health Community Wellness Grant of \$2500, a Fortis BC Community Investment Program Grant of \$2000
- We received corporate and private donations from Associated Fire Safety Group, WFR Wholesale Fire Rescue Services, Thrifty Foods, and Discovery Passage Dental & Implant Centre.
- We received union donations from the BCPFFA, Esquimalt Fire Fighters Association IAFF Local 4264, Campbell River Firefighters Association IAFF Local 1668, CFB Esquimalt Fire Fighters Association IAFF Local F-001, Port Coquitlam Firefighters Association IAFF Local 1941, and Langford FireSmart.
- We received donations from John Marinus' family, and donations in kind from Comox Fire, Regulate the Responder, the Langford Legion #91, and Community Fire Protection - Victoria.
- We are carrying forward a surplus in funds in preparation for Island Ignite 2025.
- We have established a Return-It Express fundraising account which allowed for a \$300 contribution towards Island Ignite 2024. Fundraising is ongoing and our current balance is \$151.40.

FUTURE OUTLOOK

The Island Ignite Mentorship Society has many things to be proud of this past year! We have expanded our outreach, building on existing relationships to see where collaboration can be mutually beneficial. We have engaged more female firefighters across Vancouver Island, the Gulf Islands, and the Sunshine Coast. We continue to build on our systems and create practical ways to support camp operations through innovative solutions. And we have industry partners eager to align with our program and our mission.

The outlook is bright and we are confident that the Island Ignite Mentorship Society will continue this good work for years to come!



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