



2009-2010 Annual Report

A VERY SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR SEASON CORPORATE SUPPORTER



Once again we are extremely proud to have CIBC as our Season Supporter;
our sincere thanks to them for their continued loyalty.

2009-2010

By the Numbers

Driven by the economy and gaps created in school calendars as a result of the Olympics, the 09/10 season marked our smallest season in over a decade. Despite this Green Thumb touring activities took us across Canada again and we began our Season in the summer months in Australia

We gave 207 performances in:

- 64 BC Communities
- 17 Communities in
- 4 other Provinces

And

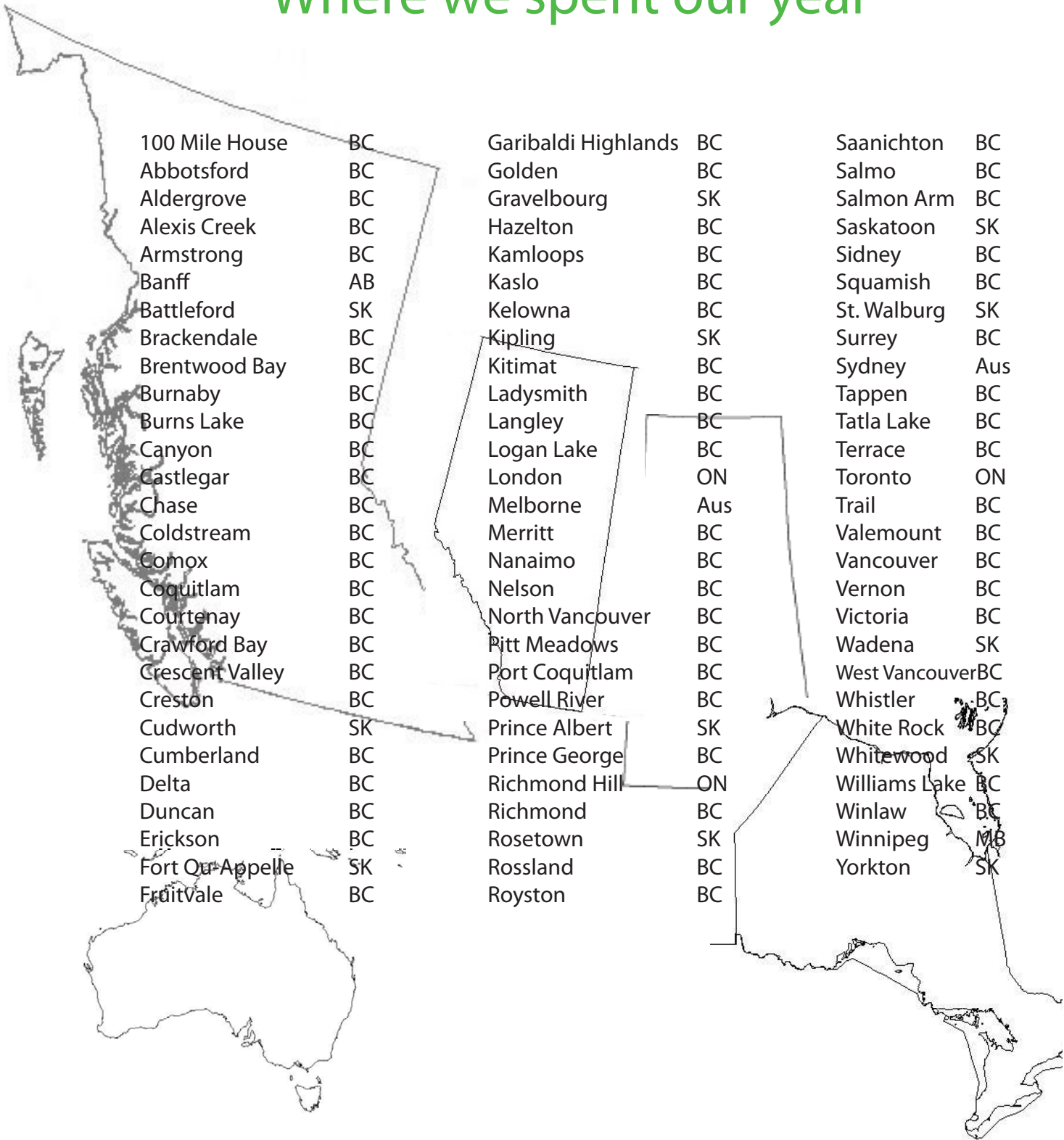
- 2 Cities in Australia

Total audience members: 44,818

Some of our geographic highlights

Furthest West	Terrace, BC	54°28'N -128°35'W
Furthest East	London, ON	42° 59'N - 81° 14'W
Furthest North	Terrace, BC	54°28'N -128°35'W
Furthest South	Melbourne, AUS.	37°50'S - 145°0'E
Smallest Community	Winlaw, BC	Pop.: 400
Largest Community	Sydney, AUS.	Pop.: 4,504,469

Where we spent our year



The Season

This was a very trying season for all of us at Green Thumb. The financial uncertainty created by changes in funding priorities at Gaming and serious funding cuts to the BC Arts Council made for a fluid season with decisions being made to both defer programming to future seasons and truncating existing tours to save money. Thankfully we are through the worst of it and things are already looking more promising for next season.

We began our season in August, early for us, but we had a two week run of CRANKED, (our hip show about addiction by Michael P. Northey), scheduled for the Performing Arts Centre in Melbourne and the iconic Sydney Opera House. The show was very well received in both cities.

In the fall we once again took out Meaghan Gardiner's BLINDSPOT. It is a particularly emotional play as it takes an uncompromising look at peer pressure and the role of alcohol and other drug use and abuse and how these factors can lead to an unfocused take on what is consent in regard to sexual activity. I was very pleased that the entire cast returned from the previous season and I believe brought a greater depth to the production.

Our main stage offering was SOUVENIRS a new play by long time collaborator Michele Riml. It was a co-production with Prairie Theatre Exchange in Winnipeg. This is our seventh Riml premiere and we were very pleased with the results. It was directed by Jennifer Brewin and featured Ron Lea (The December Man) and newcomer Rachael Aberle, a recent grad of Studio 58 here in Vancouver.

Our elementary tour was our second production of Betty Quan's WIRED a fast paced look at the dangers of cyber bullying. We made some script revisions and made several notable adjustments to the set which resulted in a stronger and cleaner looking production.

In December our artistic associate Courtenay Dobbie brought to life THE EDGE PROJECT a two night run of a performance piece she developed with four high schools and over 90 kids! It was very entertaining and the feedback from the students and the teachers was fantastic.

We were to premiere a tour of Jamie Norris new work 500 WORDS in the spring but made the decision to postpone the tour project until the fall as a cost cutting measure and to spend more time on development. A staged reading was presented to the Teacher's Qualification Program of SFU, providing valuable feedback and information for Jamie and Patrick both. In the end an unplanned but fortuitous extension of the writing and development time for this new production.

As always, we are working with playwrights, including Ami Gladstone, Chris Gatchalian, Kevin Loring, Michael P. Northey (with Kyprios), Meghan Gardiner and Tracey Power.

Patrick McDonald
Artistic Director

The season presented another year of challenges. The Olympics posed particular challenges as schools and venues across the province altered schedules and refocused priorities to accommodate this world event. School shows about bullying, teen sexual awareness or reunited families were not high on the priority list. The year saw a severe downturn in funding as well as school bookings. The US economy also played a big part in our challenges as for the first time in many years we did not secure enough performance bookings to make processing to cross the border viable. No US tour played a large part in our lowest earned revenues in over a decade. We are heartened to know however that it was an anomaly of the season as the 2010/11 season has a confirmed substantive tour in the US and we have as many school bookings for performances at the start of the season as we did for the full 2009/10 season. In addition to booking challenges posed by the Olympics, there were further budgetary pit falls waiting in the form of changes to Direct Access Gaming grants that saw a reduction of our anticipated grant by over \$40,000. Needless to say, a season that started with hopes of maintaining previous operating levels had to be adjusted downward twice during the course of the year by an overwhelming 30%.

The season contained much in the way of good news to share as well. Wired, Blind Spot and Souvenirs were all tremendous artistic successes. Cranked started the season on a high point with its performances in Australia. Wired continued to be much valued by educators and enjoyed by children. Blind Spot offered real pause for thought to many high school students and teachers, and sparked we hope some very intense but worthwhile classroom debates. Most exciting of all and despite the economy pointing to the contrary, we began what we hope will be an expanding and permanent part of our programming, The Edge Project.

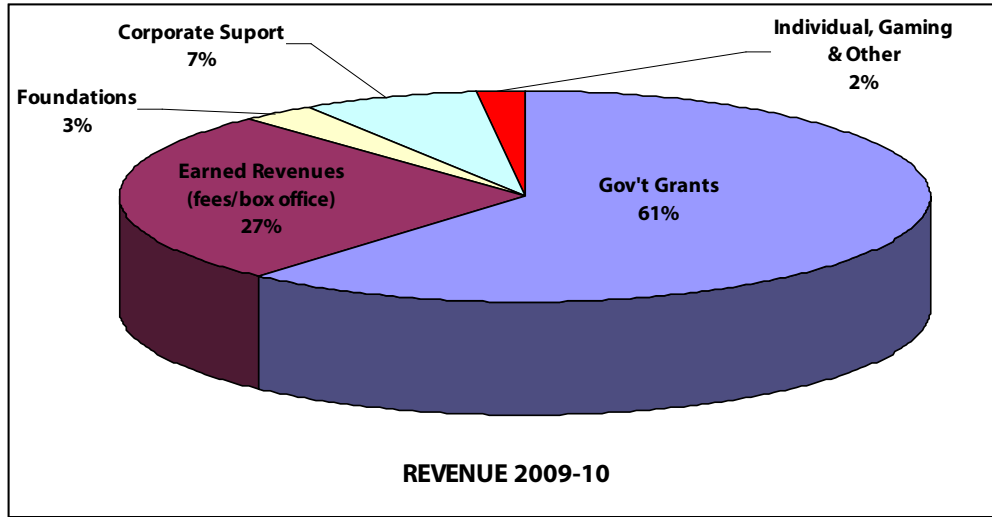
The end of the season presented us with an opportunity to open discussions with the Vancouver School Board on a potential location and building to provide us with a new permanent home and creation space; a long dream that has become more urgent since losing our home of 22 years on Venables. So despite the difficult economic pressures of the year, much optimism and new projects on our horizons continue to be the forefront of our activity.

Ivan Habel
General Manager

Finances at a Glance

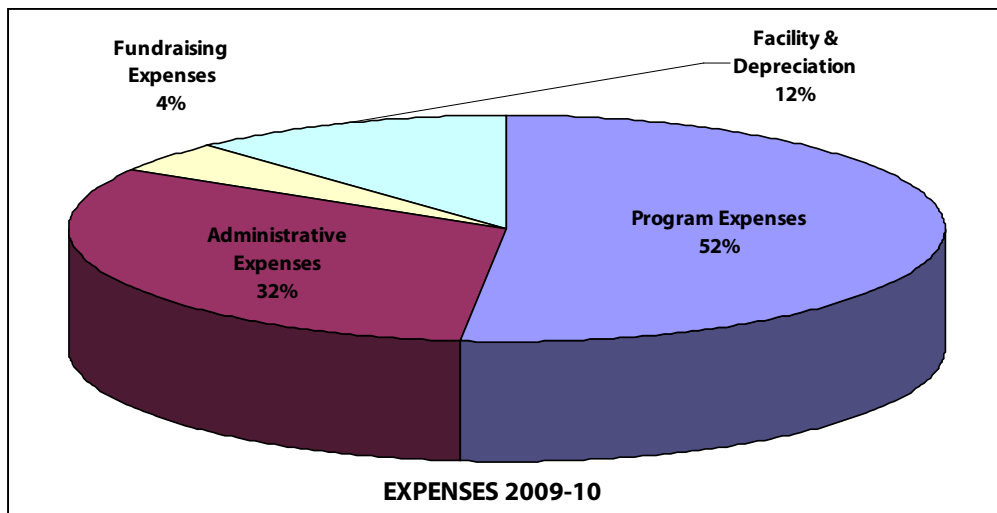
Revenues

Gov't Grants	\$484,179
Earned Revenues (fees/box office)	\$212,078
Corporate Support	\$55,200
Foundations	\$23,000
Individual, Gaming & Other	\$15,783



Expenses

Program Expenses	\$430,102
Administrative Expenses	\$265,217
Fundraising Expenses	\$36,674
Facility & Depreciation	\$99,701





Our Government Partners Operating Grants

Green Thumb Theatre is indebted to the continued support of our government supporters. We appreciate Federal, Provincial, Municipal and Regional policies which recognize the importance of the Arts in building and maintaining a vibrant society. As an organization that provides meaningful productions into schools across North America, our work would not be possible without this support.

Our Thanks to:



Canada Council
for the Arts

Conseil des Arts
du Canada



BRITISH
COLUMBIA
ARTS COUNCIL
Supported by the Province of British Columbia



The Province of BC provides support through funding of the Gaming & Enforcement Branch of the Solicitor General; Direct Access Grant, and through funding provided to the BC Arts Council.

The Department of Canadian Heritage provides support through Audience Development Grants and the Canadian Arts and Heritage Capital Equipment Grant.

Supporters

In addition to our Program specific and Season Supporters, each of the following played a critical role in assuring the very best of BC theatre reached tens of thousands of youth, young adults and adults around the continent.



Employees of Smit Marine

* Linx Print provides environmentally sustainable printing for Green Thumb Theatre.

ELEMENTARY PROGRAMMING SUPPORT is provided by:



RBC Foundation®

We wish to especially thank the RBC Foundation for loyally returning again as our Elementary Program Supporter.

The Following Foundations also played leading roles for our performances in schools across BC and Canada.

Christopher Foundation

The Melusine Foundation



BLIND SPOT

By Meghan Gardiner

An original commission and production of Green Thumb Theatre.

Production Credits

Director	Patrick McDonald
Carrie	Meghan Kinsley
Damien	Ashley Liu
Tyler	Devin Estes
Stage Manager	Rachael King

Set & Props Designer	Julie Martens
Sound Designer	Corbie Fieldwalker
Costume Designer	Naomi Sider
Lighting Designer	Ian Giles

Blind Spot toured from September 29th through November 22nd , 2009.

Tour Statistics

Performances	Audience	Km traveled	Communities
44	9,424	5,084	17

Tour Supported by:



The Consulting Edge:
Movers & Shakers, Inc.

CRANKED

By Michael P. Northey
Lyrics by Kyprios & Michael P. Northey
Music by Kyprios & Stylust

Originally commissioned by Green Thumb Theatre in 2005.

Production Credits

Director	Patrick McDonald
Stan "Definition"	Kyle Cameron
DJ inSite	Jason Pouliot
Stage Manager	Rachael King
Set Design	Justus Hayes
Lighting Design	Jeff Harrison

Cranked toured from August 15th through to August 28th performing at the Arts Centre, Melbourne and the Sydney Opera House in Australia.

Cranked had 15 performances to 3,055 Australian youth.

This tour was supported by a touring grant from the Canada Council for the Arts, and a grant from the Special Initiatives Program of the BC Arts Council.



By Betty Quan

An original commission and production of Green Thumb Theatre.

Production Credits

Director	Patrick McDonald
Julia/Mother	Pippa Mackie
Simon/Mr. Valencia	Chris Cochrane
Damien	Joel Grinke

Stage Manager	Alex Currie & Raelynne Gagnon
Video Game Design	Gord Myren
Video Graphic Design	Michael Sider
Set and Props Design	Ian Giles
Costume Design	Naomi Sider

WIRED toured from September 14th,2009 through February 28th,2010.

WIRED toured to three provinces during the 2009/10 Season.

Our Atlantic Tour was put forward to the 2010/11 season due to a shortage of funding

Tour Statistics

Performances	Audience	Km traveled	Communities
126	29,361	9,368	72

Tour Supported provided by:



Telus support through the Community Investment program

Souvenirs

By Michele Riml

A Green Thumb Theatre Commission premiere production.
Produced in Co-Production with Prairie Theatre Exchange, Winnipeg
and presented in Vancouver in association with Presentation House Theatre

Production Credits

Director	Jennifer Brewin
Maggie	Rachel Aberle
Gustav	Ron Lea
Set & Costume Designer	Brian Perchaluk
Lighting Designer	Ereca Hassell
Stage Manager	Lisa Russell
Apprentice Stage Manager (Winnipeg)	Sheena Sanderson
Apprentice Stage Manager (Vancouver)	Nicole lamb

Production Supported by:



TD Financial supports Green Thumb Theatre's pay what you can ticket pricing for students at every performance.

Media Sponsor:

THE VANCOUVER SUN

Souvenirs performed at the Prairie Theatre exchange for a total of 21 performances to an average capacity of 60%. It then moved to the Presentation House Theatre where it had 15 performances from November 12th to November 27th, 2009 to a capacity of 37%. A total of just over 3,000 people attended the premieres of Souvenirs.

the edge project

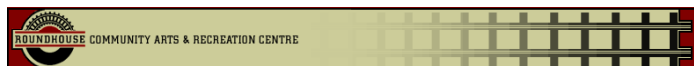
In association with the **ROUNDHOUSE COMMUNITY CENTRE** and featuring students from:
Tamanawis Secondary, Surrey; Lord Byng Secondary, Vancouver;
Burnett Secondary, Richmond and David Thomson Secondary, Vancouver

Four High Schools, one hundred students and three months...
the start of an annual event

The Edge Project was a new initiative that Green Thumb Theatre experimented with in the 2009/10 Season. Working in the high schools and then at the Moberly Community Arts Centre, we brought four very different schools together and let the students create their own collective creation. We added a director, video/sound designer, and lighting designer and produced two sold out public performances at the Roundhouse Community Centre.

Made possible in part with the assistance of:

vancouver
foundation



With our special thanks to the **Moberly Arts & Cultural Centre**.

500 Words

By Jamie Norris

Several workshops leading to a public reading presentation of 500 Words which was performed for over 200 student teachers of the Professional Qualifications Program of Simon Fraser University.

Directed by Patrick McDonald
Sylvia Ella Simon
Lance Aslam Husain

Made possible by:

HAWTHORNE CHARITABLE FOUNDATION



Meaghan Benmore

Anne Carew

Ethel Coffin

Judith Coffin

Alexander & Rosemary Currie

Dave Deveau

Daniel J. Dolan

Anne Gardiner

Lyndsay Green

Ivan Habel

Stephen N. Heatley

Victoria Henderson

Lyman Henderson

Jessie Li

Deborah Loren

Duncan Low

Nicole Macrae

Betty J. Norris

John Page

Andy Price

Heather Robbie

Wendy Scholefield

Kathryn J. Shaw

Lindy Sisson

Karen Smith

Ross Vaartnou

Jerry Wasserman

Nancy J. Webster

Eric & Shirley Wilson

Donald Wright

Each donation to Green Thumb Theatre helps to ensure that programming continues to reach over tens of thousands of youth per year. Individual donors are the heart of our fundraising and continue to be our trail blazers.

BOARD

Victorian Henderson	President
Maureen McEvoy	Past President
Paula Rosehart	Director
Duncan Low	Vice President
Don Wright	Secretary Treasurer
Zayem Lakhani	Director
Nick Stroumev	Director

STAFF

Nadine Carew	Tour Manager
Courtenay Dobbie	Artistic Associate
Alex Currie	Production Manager
Ivan Habel	General Manager
Jessie Li	Accountant
Patrick McDonald	Artistic Director
Nicole Macrae	Fundraising Manager
Samantha Mouchet	Education Liaison *
Lucy Lai	Tax Accountant/ Consultant

* Education Liaison position was funded by the Cultural Human Resources Council internship program and further support was then provided by the BCAC and Centre for Sustainability's joint Capacity Grant Program.



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thumb
theatre



Photos of the Edge Project 2009

www.greenthumb.bc.ca