



Yasodhara Ashram
YOGA RETREAT & STUDY CENTRE

2016

ANNUAL REPORT

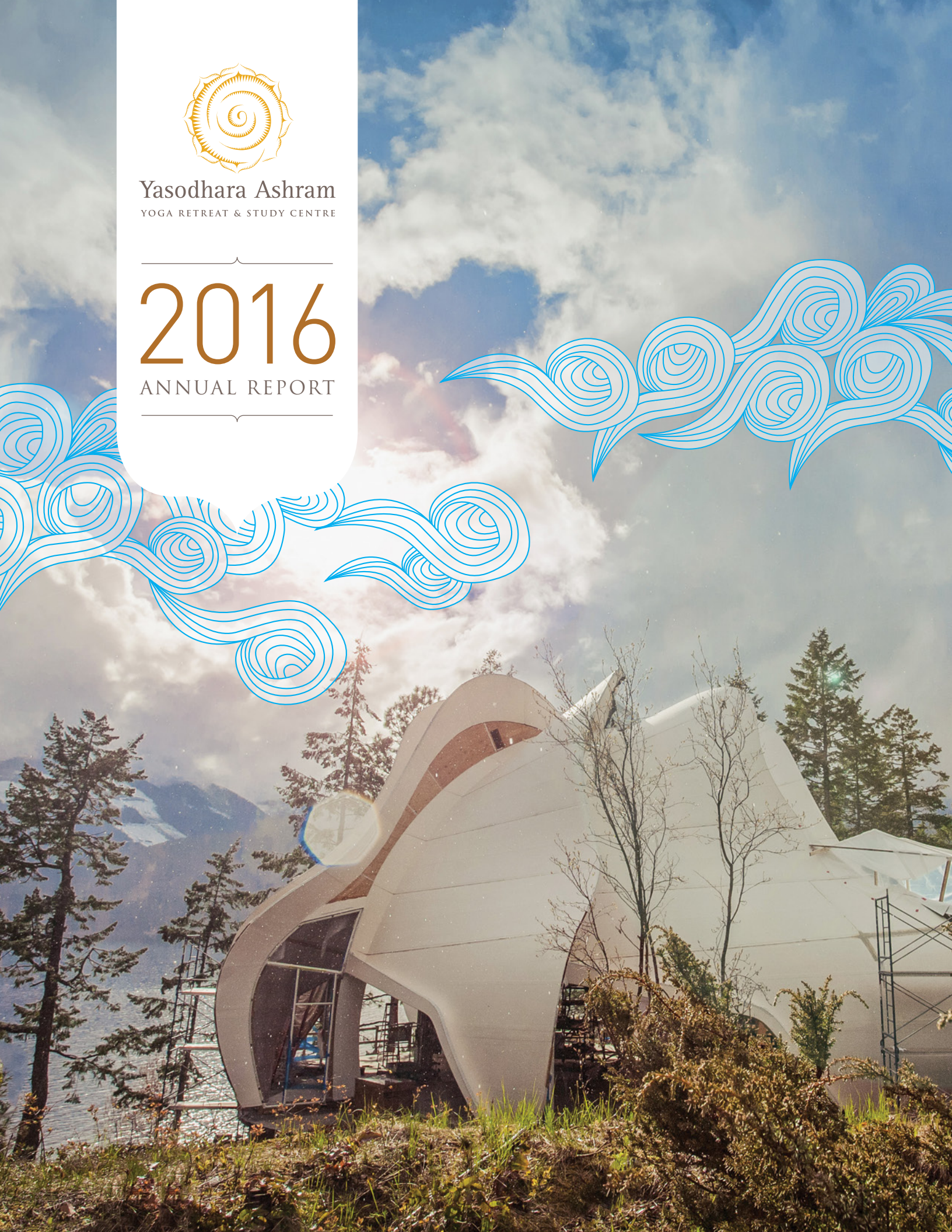




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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The heart of Yasodhara Ashram is expressed both through continuity and adaptability to changing times. What is constant is support for personal and spiritual discovery, an invitation to learn, and a challenge to give back to life.



As an Ashram built on selfless service, we offer sanctuary and sustenance to help quench the thirst of those seeking authenticity, meaning and depth. More than a thousand people of diverse ages and backgrounds came to the Ashram in 2016 to reflect, inquire and gain perspective on their lives.

2016 was also a year of expanding beyond the Ashram's usual boundaries and experimenting with new programs. In this age of technological acceleration, we held the first annual Decelerator Retreat that brought changemakers together to explore personal and professional concerns from a yogic perspective. We also opened our doors

to gatherings of those who share our concerns, including environmental, interfaith and Indigenous groups. We presented the Ashram perspective at several international conferences, and our teachers travelled widely across Canada and Europe to inspire and encourage. The Ashram's in-house publisher, Timeless Books, published a new book of Swami Radha's essays, *Yoga: A Path to Awareness*.

2016 was special in another way. This was the year that the Temple of Light began to manifest, and it was the year that we received the most donations ever in our 53-year history! Thank you. Your generosity allowed us to move from the planning stage, to mock ups, to onsite construction of the Temple. This innovative building will open in 2017 as a lighthouse for those seeking to rise above differences and find oneness in our human and spiritual values.

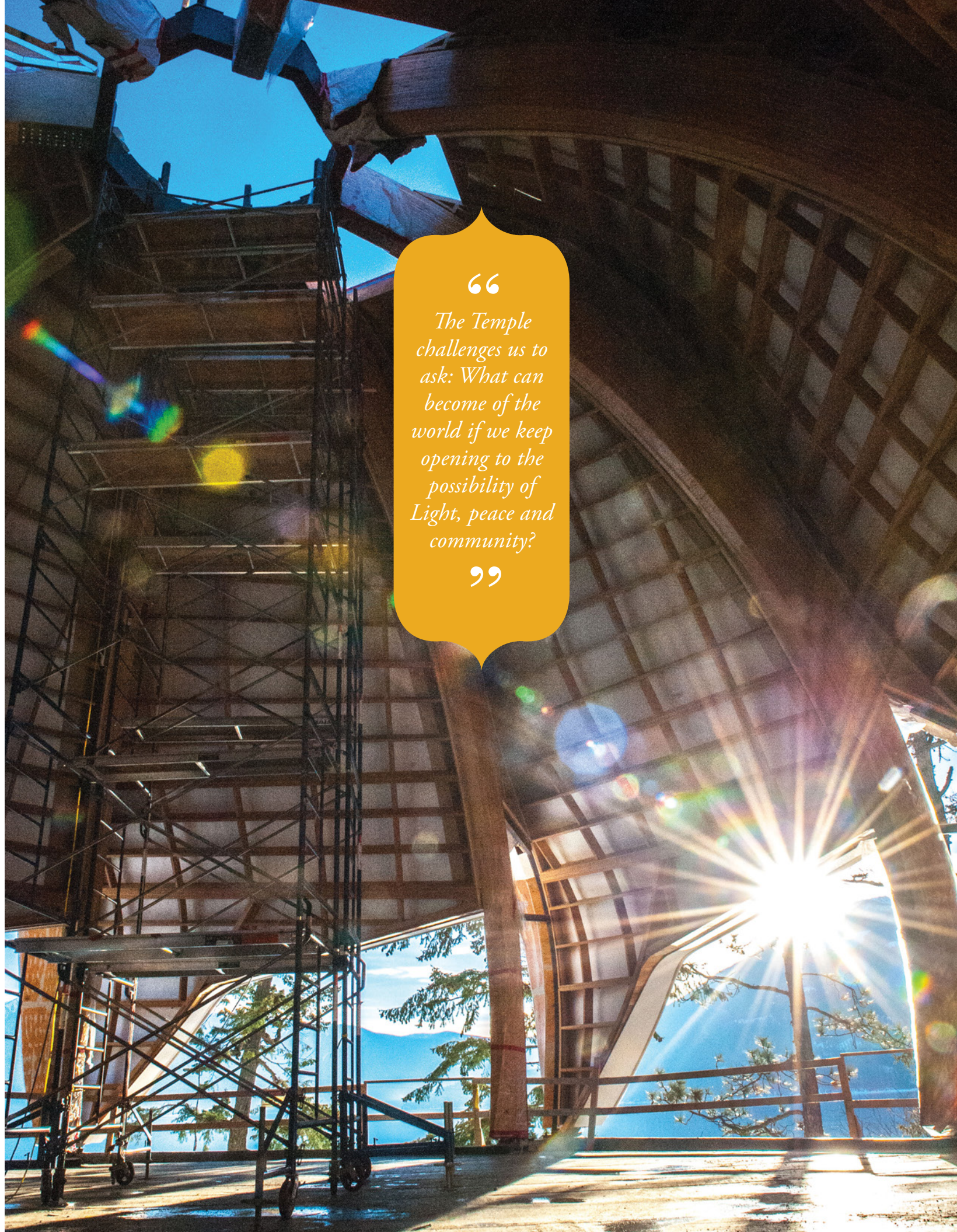
The Temple challenges us to ask: What can become of the world if we keep opening to the possibility of Light, peace and community?

Please join us in celebrating Sacred Space in 2017. Again, thank you for your generosity and support. 🙏

Swami Lalitananda

SWAMI LALITANANDA
President, Yasodhara Ashram Society

“
The Temple challenges us to ask: What can become of the world if we keep opening to the possibility of Light, peace and community?
”



ABOUT

YASODHARA ASHRAM

YASODHARA ASHRAM IS A YOGA RETREAT AND STUDY CENTRE FOUNDED IN 1963 IN KOOTENAY BAY, BRITISH COLUMBIA. As a Canadian charity and active learning centre, our purpose is to stimulate open intellectual and spiritual enquiry, supporting the potential of transformation in each person. We offer a wide range of programs year round, helping people to evolve and lead fulfilling lives. We are also a residential community where we practice living what we teach.

Locally the Ashram has been an integral part of the East Shore community of Kootenay Lake for more than 50 years. We volunteer on community boards, the fire department, first responders and at the local school, and we make donations toward services such as the ambulance and school lunch program. We offer meeting space and invite our neighbours to educational and social events. We hire locally and support local farmers.

Globally we reach out through travel and offering workshops internationally. We invite schools and like-minded organizations to join us for sustainability tours and work-study programs. We participate in conferences and share what we learn with other groups. 🌿



EDUCATION AND OUTREACH

The Ashram offers a range of courses and retreats varying in length from day visits to the three-month Yoga Development Course (YDC), Yoga Teacher Certification, Service & Study programs, the Young Adult Program and the Learning Residency program.

COURSES

Our courses emphasize self-discovery through reflection and practice in everyday life. Our teachings help people build a strong foundation of character — the inner work necessary to face life's challenges and adapt to change.

2016 Highlights | Extending our reach to new audiences was a focus for this year with Skype classes, outreach programs for local students and teachers, and Decelerator, a five-day re-energizing retreat for professionals. New well-attended courses attracted first time and returning guests: Yoga & Nature, Women Holding the Earth, The Chakras: Opening to Dynamic Potential. Our fourth annual Family Week in July filled the Ashram with children, parents and grandparents. More young parents who attended the Young Adult Program are now bringing their children to experience the Ashram. Swami Radhananda's course, Living the Practice, continues to draw many long-time and new people each year. Our expansion in programming is possible because our teachers are stepping into lead teaching positions and mentoring newer teachers.

9
returning teachers
participated in the
Teacher Service
Program.

“
In 2016
we awarded
more than
\$22,000
in course
and program
bursaries and over
\$19,000
in honoraria
and Learning
Residency
payments.
”



TEACHER SERVICE PROGRAM

We value our Yasodhara Yoga teachers and encourage them to continue to return to the Ashram for renewal. Our Teacher Service Program offers an opportunity to self-design a program — usually ranging from two weeks to two months — and financial contribution that fits each person's needs and circumstances.

2016 Highlights | In 2016, nine returning teachers participated in the Teacher Service Program offering Karma Yoga including teaching courses and retreats as well as having scheduled time for ongoing learning.

SERVICE & STUDY (KARMA YOGA)

Our one-month Service & Study Program welcomes participants of all ages interested in experiencing life in a spiritual community. The focus is on Karma Yoga, the yoga of action, that supports participants in learning how to work, how to work together and how to understand themselves in relation to others. This program integrates the Young Adult Program for 18-30 year olds, helping them gain confidence so they can create the life they want to live.

2016 Highlights | Fifty-five people attended the one-month program in 2016, with just over half the participants in the Young Adult category. We also enjoyed return stays from 10 previous one-month participants, ranging from one week to nine months. Returning Karma Yogis are a boon to our community as they are able to quickly jump into Ashram life and help others to do the same. In 2016 we awarded more than \$22,000 in course and program bursaries and over \$19,000 in honoraria and Learning Residency payments.

LEARNING RESIDENCY PROGRAM

Learning Residencies at Yasodhara Ashram are spiritual and career/life development opportunities. Learning Residents are provided room and board, workshops and classes; and they learn skills ranging from preserving food to woodworking to organic gardening techniques.

55
people attended
the one-month
Service & Study
Program in 2016.

6
participants from
the Learning
Residency Program
stayed from 4 to
9 months.

2016 Highlights | In 2016 we entered the fourth year of our Learning Residency Program. Six participants stayed from four to nine months consecutively and four graduates of the program returned to provide leadership in various areas. The multiyear involvement through a start in the Learning Resident Program benefits the Ashram and deepens each person's expertise, helping them develop leadership skills that are transferable when they leave.

Each Learning Resident creates an independent project that enhances the area that they are working in. This year we had projects ranging from new pickling and fermentation techniques to research on how spirituality and activism meet within the Ashram community. →



ARTIST RETREAT OPENS DOORS

MULTIDISCIPLINARY ARTIST MICHAELA BEKENN EXPERIENCED A TRANSFORMATIVE JOURNEY IN MUSIC AND SONG DURING HER ASHRAM ARTIST RETREAT IN APRIL.

“

When I first arrived I went to the water's edge and the doors opened. Song came pouring through me and I recognized it wasn't from me alone. It was from something higher — and reminded me of my first song-writing experience at age 16.

Dwelling among nature's subtleties here, I find my mind absorbs the atmosphere — the curvatures and the angles and the textures. The quality of air infiltrates my system. Nature takes me to a place beyond word and language; then I return to music and to song, which I consider to be my first language.

Living in Creek Cabin allowed me to wake up and fall into dream to the sound of flowing water. Being close to the flow of nature brought the sense of never arriving at a single destination but always being in transit — “forever arriving” as a favourite poet Octavio Paz wrote.

Nature here also brought a sense of being safe and free to be exactly who I am.

The Ashram community — so wonderfully intergenerational — was another important aspect for me. My times of solitude were well balanced with community at satsangs, Karma Yoga and workshops.

Among the songs that flowed is a song of gratitude to Kootenay Bay. It's also an invitation to all songs, telling them “it's safe to come out and play now.”

”



ARTIST & PROFESSIONAL RETREATS

This program, now in its fourth year, fills a need for those who want to be in a spiritual environment while working on artistic, personal or professional projects. The retreats, which range from one week to one month or longer, offer the benefits of Ashram activities while giving participants needed privacy to concentrate on their projects.

2016 Highlights | The artists and professionals on retreat this year included writers, musicians, academics and professionals. During their stays, Artist and Professional guests often express what their retreats mean to them through a Lunch and Learn session, which gives everyone a chance to be inspired by their creative processes.

A poet and publisher who came from Britain for a month-long Artist Retreat said, “I was gifted with the time I needed to rest my mind and heart. It allowed me to get back to my poems, which I had so often put aside while engaged with all the other work involved in running a press.” A young musician expressed her gratitude for the intergenerational aspect of the Ashram, and for the balance of solitude with community.



Teachers presented workshops and talks in Canada and Europe.

More than **540** students attended workshops.



200 were new to the teachings.

BUILDING COMMUNITY — REACHING OUT

Since the Ashram's inception in the 1960s, teachers have always travelled widely to offer programs across Canada and internationally.

2016 Highlights | In 2016 teachers presented workshops and talks in Western and Eastern Canada locations, as well as hosting an extensive European tour and attending conferences.

This year's Outreach connected with a significant number of people. More than 540 students attended workshops including approximately 200 who were new to our teachings. Participants everywhere expressed gratitude for “the Ashram coming to us.” Our Yasodhara Yoga teachers who hosted events in their communities also appreciated the support that our Outreach network provided.

Closer to home, we offered regular meditation and mindfulness for the Kindergarten-Grade 1 and Grade 2-4 classes at Crawford Bay School. We continue to explore how we can keep building on this relationship.

Teachers also presented at three conferences: the International Peace & Justice Conference in Nelson, British Columbia; the International Transformative Learning Conference in Tacoma, Washington; and a conference for Respiratory Technologists in Edmonton, Alberta. →





CORAZÓN - SINGING FROM THE HEART

BEAUTIFUL YOUNG VOICES FILLED THE ASHRAM, WHEN OVER SIXTY MEMBERS OF NELSON'S CORAZÓN CHOIR CAME FOR AN OVERNIGHT TEAM-BUILDING VISIT. CHOIR DIRECTOR ALLISON GIRVAN SOUGHT AN ENVIRONMENT THAT ENCOURAGES DEEPER CONNECTIONS WITH EACH OTHER AND WITH THE MUSIC TO BRING TOGETHER NEW AND LONGER-TERM MEMBERS.

Settled back in Nelson for a few weeks after being here, Allison commented on the continued effect of the visit. "We are all still riding the wave of being together at the Ashram and are so much more connected from our time there," she says. "I know it wasn't that long ago, but the memories of the environment feel more vivid than I would expect."

"We all loved being able to sing a bit for everyone before we left. That was a real high point for many of us. The choir commented on how warm and welcoming everyone was and how at home they felt. It was a rich, memorable experience for all of us who were at the Ashram."

Experiencing Corazón's offering from the heart was an incredible experience for everyone. We look forward to the choir's return next fall and hearing them in the new Temple of Light!

BUILDING COMMUNITY — INVITING IN

Yasodhara Ashram welcomes diverse perspectives and is eager to work with others who have similar aims of promoting peace, environmental action and understanding among diverse traditions.

2016 Highlights | 2016 saw an increase of groups coming to the Ashram in the shoulder seasons. Diverse groups — including yoga, faith traditions, choirs and environmental — came for day events and longer retreats.

Over **100** people came for the 4th Annual Kootenay Lake Summit.

Over 100 people gathered here in October for the 4th Annual Kootenay Lake Summit that brought together representatives of the Indigenous peoples of the region, city planners, environmentalists, wildlife enthusiasts, artists, regional directors, college students and many more.

In the fall we hosted sixty-five talented young members of Nelson's Corazon youth choir for a team-building visit. The choir director described their stay as a rich and memorable experience. →

ONE-MONTH PROGRAM WELCOMES FAMILY

THE GIBBS-REED FAMILY FOURSOME ENTERED OUR ONE MONTH KARMA YOGA PROGRAM IN OCTOBER, WANTING TO DEEPEN THEIR EXPERIENCE OF FAMILY WEEK. THEY HAPPILY REFLECTED TOGETHER ON THEIR RECEPTION HERE.

"It's special for kids to see a community of people who are looking at a healthy way of living," commented Randy Reed. "For our daughters, too, I wanted to come because the leadership is strong women, with a focus on the Divine Feminine." For himself, Randy welcomed daily Hatha Yoga that helped his continued healing from avalanche injuries.

"It's so special here," agreed Cat Gibbs. "I always felt welcome to communicate what was needed to suit the family. We were 100% supported in that. There was such respect for our way of being and integrating as a family."



We look forward to Corazon returning in 2017 for their annual team-building and to enjoying their collaboration with the University of Western Ontario youth choir for a concert at the Ashram in 2018.

A Christian meditation community returned for its annual retreat.

We also held an interfaith vigil that brought more than 30 people together as part of an ongoing series of vigils in association with the Nelson Interfaith Climate Action Collaborative.

During the year we invited members of Indigenous communities, including the Ktunaxa, to offer ceremony in blessing the new Temple of Light and to offer teachings to help us appreciate their tradition and move toward reconciliation.



ASHRAM ATTRACTS PEOPLE FROM AROUND THE WORLD

THE 10 DAYS OF YOGA IN AUGUST ATTRACTED A MEDLEY OF INTERNATIONAL PARTICIPANTS WHO ENJOYED REFLECTING ON THEIR SHARED EXPERIENCE.

Grace Gosine took classes in Trinidad for six years with Yasodhara Yoga teacher, Bhavani, and realized that she wanted to accelerate her understanding. She was touched by the 10 Days of Yoga and said, “The presence of people from other nationalities added to the diversity of ideas and answers that we generated. We were very interested in what each other had to say.”

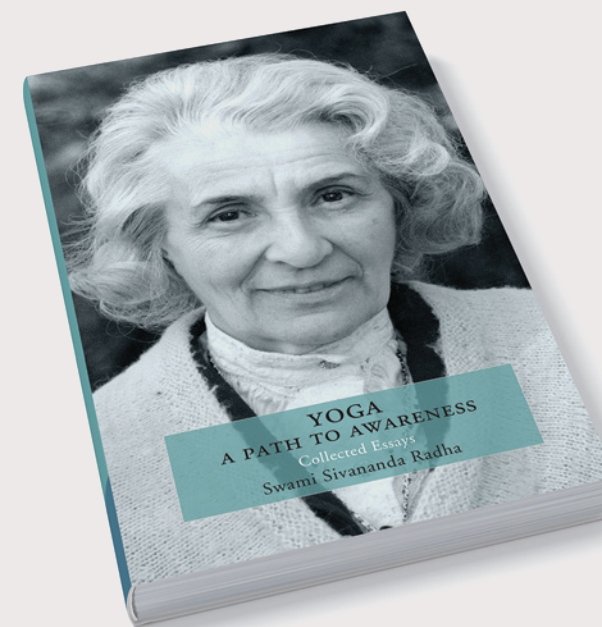
Alexandra Sousa says she benefited from workshops held by Yasodhara Yoga teacher, Jovita Oliveira in Portugal, so she chose to spend her holidays from her law practice at the Ashram. “I decided to take time to reflect about important things in my life.”

A NEW PUBLICATION BY SWAMI RADHA

RICHES COME IN MANY SHAPES AND FORMS, AND ONE OF THE GREATEST TREASURES AT THE ASHRAM IS THE COLLECTION OF MORE THAN 2000 TRANSCRIPTS OF TALKS BY SWAMI RADHA. HER ARCHIVE DATES FROM 1955 TO HER PASSING IN 1995 — 40 YEARS OF INFORMAL TALKS, LECTURES, WORKSHOPS AND SATSANGS. FROM THIS RICH RESOURCE COMES A NEW TIMELESS BOOKS OFFERING, *YOGA, A PATH TO AWARENESS*.

This new publication is available in paper and e-formats. A collection of 20 essays, the contents are grouped in four sections for easy reference: “*Liberation: The Path of Yoga*,” “*Kundalini Yoga: The Foundation*,” “*Mind & Consciousness*” and “*Knowledge*.”

Swami Lalitananda writes in the introduction: “As I reviewed this collection I was touched by the power of her words, and how they resonated for me personally, and how they reflected the way she herself lived. Her advice to others was based on her own deep exploration, experimentation and understanding of what it takes to walk the spiritual path. She understood the stages, the obstacles, the desires and fantasies, the need to discern. She lived a life of loving the Divine and not fooling herself.”



PUBLICATIONS & COMMUNICATION

We focused our 2016 efforts on increasing our visibility and attracting new audiences through social media and updated publications, as well as publishing a new book.

2016 Highlights | The Ashram’s in-house publisher, Timeless Books, published a new book of Swami Radha’s essays, *Yoga: A Path to Awareness*.

Our social media profile received a boost through enhancements to Facebook and the addition of Instagram and Twitter.

The creation of more short videos helped us communicate progress about the Temple.

Our brochure changed focus from outlining programs to encouraging people to visit our website.

We published a beautiful new binder of information for guest rooms. 🌿

SUSTAINABILITY & RESILIENCE

Over the past 53 years Yasodhara Ashram has evolved toward becoming a model community for sustainable living, making decisions that support a healthy future. A past winner of the FortisBC Power-Sense Conservation Excellence Award and Tourism BC's Environmentally Responsible Tourism Award, the Ashram recently signed onto the Renewable Energy Kootenays initiative, committing to 100% renewable energy by 2035. Environmental action is an important part of our social responsibility, a practice of the yogic principle of *ahimsa* (non-injury).

FOOD FLOW

2016 Highlights | Our Food Flow system includes the growing, procurement, processing, preserving, cooking and consuming of what we eat. This year our garden produced approximately 25 percent of the food we eat — 13,750 meals out of the 55,000 we serve annually. Ashram menus were based on what is available seasonally from our garden, with an additional 40 percent of what we consume coming from local farmers and orchardists.

We had a bumper crop of fruit this season, including over 750 kg of cherries and 2000 kg of apples, pears and plums! After multiple seasons of work by many Karma Yogis, the blueberries came into their own; we harvested more than ever before. And for the first time we grew enough garlic to be self-sufficient. We planted over 2400 cloves, which will grow 1800 bulbs for eating and 600 for seed stock. We harvested just under 500 kg of squash and 250 kg of kale to keep us healthy through the year.



13,750
meals out of
55,000 were
produced from
the garden.

Each year our procurement process continues to become more efficient. Accurate harvest and preserving records help us to know our needs and plan together with local farmers.

We are grateful to our professional chef who is dedicated to farm-to-table cooking and has strong organizational skills. Along with professional staff and keen Karma Yogis, the kitchen — which in many ways is the heart of the Ashram — functions smoothly. We would also like to acknowledge the abundant work of the garden and preserving kitchen teams!

INFRASTRUCTURE & RENEWABLES

2016 Highlights | Our infrastructure focus in 2016 was on the new Temple of Light where we are taking practical steps in our commitment to the planet and future generations. We implemented our first photovoltaic array, which will provide solar power to significantly reduce the Temple's energy use. We envision developing a second phase of photovoltaics to make the Temple a net zero energy building. To increase energy efficiency in the Temple, we are also using triple glazing, superior insulation and weatherproofing, geothermal heating and passive ventilation.

Elsewhere in the Ashram we continued pilot projects that will lead to enhanced performance



We implemented
our first
**photovoltaic
array.**

in upgrading our 22 buildings. We installed an air-source heat pump in Cabin 3 at the Heights as an alternative to less efficient electric baseboard heating. The preliminary results are promising and will be folded into last year's documentation of wood and pellet stove pilot projects. We are crafting a balanced approach to reducing energy costs and increasing resiliency, weighing capital and operating costs.

A major challenge is that the Ashram infrastructure has been built incrementally over the past five decades. This means that as we learn from new construction like the Temple, and find ways to adjust to escalating utility costs through pilot projects, we are looking ahead and behind at the same time. 🌿





TEMPLE OF LIGHT

The Temple of Light arose from a vision of the Ashram's founder, Swami Radha, who dreamed of a space where people from all traditions were welcome and could find understanding beyond images or doctrines. The first Temple, completed in 1992, was tragically destroyed by fire in 2014. Now the Temple is rising once again as a symbol of hope, peace and unity. Through the innovative design of Patkau Architects, the new Temple is evolving into a cutting edge architectural masterpiece — a lotus-like flower that expands outward into the natural beauty and that will allow us to expand inward to find the Light within.

2016 Highlights | After much planning, design and redesign, the Temple of Light started to manifest in 2016. We ended the year with the eight primary arches in place along with five of the biggest, most complex base panels forming the first layer of the Temple shell. We also gathered stacks of prefabricated pieces in our snowy parking lot, plus two cranes, a zoom-boom and multiple workers preparing to put it all together.

In the spring of 2016 Spearhead, the fabrication company across the lake from us, created a mock-up of one sub-panel (or “petal”) piece that was analyzed by architects, engineers, builders and roofers for efficiency, cladding, constructability, waterproofing, before using their computer numerical controlled machines (CNC) to create all 54 pieces.

Throughout the year the Ashram Temple Hub worked diligently to keep the budget in check and maintain awareness on maintenance and sustainability criteria. The Temple communications team, which expanded to include a budding journalist and a filmmaker — both former Young Adult Program participants — kept Ashram members and external audiences updated. And we could not have progressed without the support of our generous donors and volunteer fundraisers.

Temple Celebrations are scheduled for July 31 to August 7, 2017. It will be a gathering of friends and supporters to celebrate this inspiring vision — a reminder of what is precious within and what is possible in our world. 🌸

DONOR GENEROSITY

Donors are instrumental to the ongoing health and well-being of the Ashram. Whether they give through their practices, visits for courses and retreats, supporting outreach efforts, offering in-kind gifts or financial donations, their contributions are invaluable. Our worldwide community knows the relevance of and need for the Ashram teachings in our challenged world today and show their support most generously. In fact, this year we received the most donations ever in our 53-year history! Thank you!

Here are some of the comments we received this year from our supporters.:

“I CAME TO THE ASHRAM for a month five years ago and did the Young Adult Karma Yoga Program. I was 20 at the time, and it really opened me up being there, and set me on a path of self-discovery. I am grateful!”

“A YEAR AGO I HAD THE PRIVILEGE of attending the 10 Days of Yoga in May. The experience was like no other. I gained knowledge, self-awareness and tools for daily living. Thanks to all who work to keep Yasodhara available to everyone.”

“I APPRECIATE WHAT THE ASHRAM STANDS FOR in this world and am encouraged by its resiliency and continued growth and adaptation to the changing needs of our times.”

“I HOPE I COME BACK to see the beautiful new Temple one day! May it open its doors to many seekers, bringing harmony and unity for all and for our planet at this time.”

“I WAS AT THE ASHRAM LAST SUMMER and part of the Young Adult Program. I hope you continue building community and spreading Light to all.”



UNITE FOR
THE TEMPLE
#UNITE4TEMPLE

SPIRITUAL DIRECTION, GOVERNANCE & MANAGEMENT

Founded by Swami Sivananda Radha, a Western woman who studied in India in the mid 1950s, Yasodhara Ashram was the first ashram established in Canada. Swami Radha was asked by her teacher to live on faith without working when she returned to Canada. Out of her dedication and courage, the Ashram grew into the flourishing centre it is today.

Swami Radha is also a role model for other women and established a lineage of women leaders. Swami Radhananda, president of Yasodhara Ashram Society from 1993 through 2014, continues as spiritual director. Swami Lalitananda became president of the Society in 2014.

Yasodhara Ashram Society has been a Canadian charity since 1963.

2016 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Swami Lalitananda
PRESIDENT

Swami Samayananda
VICE-PRESIDENT

Alicia Pace
SECRETARY/TREASURER

Rebecca Dale
DIRECTOR

Paris Marshall Smith
DIRECTOR



SWAMI SIVANANDA RADHA
FOUNDER, YASODHARA ASHRAM



SWAMI RADHANANDA
SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR



SWAMI LALITANANDA
PRESIDENT

2016 Highlights |

SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR

Over the year, Swami Radhananda gave initiations into deeper spiritual commitments to four dedicated, long-term students of the work. She also consulted with the Board to offer guidance.

YASODHARA ASHRAM SOCIETY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Our Board continued to learn and to set a higher level mandate by keeping our attention on the organizational needs of the Ashram as well as the current trends in the world. We inquired and experimented with timely ways that the Ashram can evolve and remain sustainable regarding people, programs and finances.

MANAGEMENT

The “Thursday Group” includes some Board members meeting weekly with long-term residents to discuss the health and direction of the Ashram and to make decisions on proposals from departments. The “Operations Group” meets weekly to schedule priorities for the workweek and think ahead to seasonal changes. The “People-Operations Group” meets twice weekly to manage events, organize transitions and tend to people-related issues. 🌿

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

Over its 53-year history, Yasodhara Ashram has operated on the principle of renunciation and generosity — buying what we need when we need it, without overconsumption. We make our programs financially accessible — offering payment plans, course discounts, bursaries, scholarships and honoraria. Donations help support youth, elders and people on limited incomes to access the Ashram teachings and community.




\$1,853,877
 investment in the
 new temple.


286
 new guests.


\$12,000
 to publish
 Swami Radha's
 new book.

2016 Highlights | Our focus in 2016 has been on design and construction of the Temple of Light.

In 2016 we experienced healthy revenues from the combination of courses, residency fees and Karma Yoga programs.

The number of people coming for courses increased. There were 37 people in the 10 Days of Yoga and 18 in the Hatha Yoga Teacher Certification, both the highest numbers in the past five years. The number of new guests also increased. This year there were 286 new guests, an increase that accounts for over a third of our unique visitors. Guests also stayed longer than they had in the last several years.

In 2016 we awarded over \$22,000 in course and program bursaries and over \$19,000 in honoraria and Learning Residency payments.

ASSETS

- Our biggest asset spend this year was our investment of \$1,853,877 in the new Temple.
- Infrastructure and building changes totaled \$27,000 and included the air source heat pump, utility trailer, golf cart, weed whacker, food processor, pump tank and a deep cleaning machine.
- Timeless Books published for \$12,000 Swami Radha's newest book *Yoga: A Path to Awareness*.

BALANCE SHEET

As at December 31, 2016

	2016	2015
ASSETS		
Current assets		
Cash	655,655	744,080
Accounts receivable	71,679	21,255
Inventory	150,288	141,540
Work in process	2,471	2,471
	880,093	909,346
Investments	627,011	793,813
Capital assets	6,758,382	4,851,236
Total Assets	\$8,265,486	\$6,554,395
LIABILITIES		
Current liabilities		
Accounts payable	255,092	46,136
Deferred revenue	40,213	42,131
Deferred revenue — PCTIA	-	3,800
Deferred insurance proceeds	7,278	1,933
Security deposits	200	200
Total Liabilities	\$302,783	\$94,200
MEMBERS' EQUITY		
Restricted net assets — external	156,265	313,622
Restricted net assets — internal	466,943	476,402
Unrestricted net assets	580,025	817,845
Invested in capital assets	6,759,470	4,852,326
	7,962,703	6,460,195
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$8,265,486	\$6,554,395



REVENUE

- Our donations were \$235,000 more than the previous year and the highest ever.
- Individual donors gave over \$383,000 designated to the Temple Rebuild Fund and an additional \$152,000 helped Young Adults, Sustainability and Elder activities at the Ashram. We also received \$973,000 for the Temple Rebuild from the Friends of Radha Foundation, our associated charity.
- Income from Outreach teaching increased to \$44,000.
- Group and event income climbed from \$6,500 to over \$22,000. Group rentals also helped raise the profile of the Ashram to an expanding audience.
- Long-term residents' contributions increased for a third year in a row to an all-time high of \$65,000.


\$235,500
 more in donations
 than the previous
 year.


\$22,000
 from groups and
 events income.


\$44,000
 of income from
 Outreach teaching.

EXPENSES

- Expenses in 2016 increased by \$65,000 over the previous year not including spending on the Temple, building upgrades and equipment.
- Increases in our expenses were in the following areas:
 - Human Resources increased by \$14,178
 - Internet and telephone charges were up \$6,500
 - Travel for the Temple was \$11,000
 - Credit card and processing fees were up by \$7,500
 - Vehicle expenses were up by \$6,500 due to rising insurance and gas prices
 - Communications & Marketing increased by \$12,000 to reach new audiences and enhance the professionalism of our materials. 🌿

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

As at December 31, 2016

	2015	2014
REVENUE		
Sales	105,649	120,975
Cost of goods sold	(60,756)	(76,650)
Gross margin	44,893	44,325
Bequests	-	-
Course fees — Ashram	140,609	132,720
Course fees — PCTIA	90,044	95,923
Donations	1,676,692	629,079
Investment income	17,393	18,944
Memberships and miscellaneous	7,735	14,524
Property income	48,203	42,058
Retreats and residency	448,766	455,265
Ashram forests — related	950	2,650
Total Revenue	\$2,475,285	\$1,435,488
EXPENSES		
Advertising, marketing and fundraising	24,341	12,482
Audio, video and archiving	20	-
Bad debts	1,675	270
Bank charges and exchange	9,036	(15,607)
Credit card fees	19,693	12,123
Donations and gifts	5,474	4,107
Farm and grounds	14,271	22,559
Food service	148,519	154,646
Household supplies	23,930	20,374
Human resources	431,759	416,941
In-house design and production	21,220	16,814
Insurance and registration	8,725	8,573
Office and miscellaneous	25,221	23,700
Outreach expenses	11,860	-
Professional and consultant fees	87,672	87,811
Repairs and maintenance	71,543	72,075
Royalties	1,788	4,518
Telephone	13,689	11,327
Travel and living costs	10,639	17,300
Utilities	53,995	56,881
Vehicles	25,111	18,556
Total Expenses	\$1,010,181	\$945,450
Excess of revenue over expenses before other items	\$1,465,103	\$490,038
Unrealized gain (loss) on investments	29,328	(126)
Unrealized currency gain or loss	15,200	-
Loss on sale of capital assets	-	-
Write-off of capital assets	(7,122)	(41,169)
Donation to Associate Charity	-	(800)
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenses	\$1,502,510	\$447,943

A landscape photograph showing a large body of water in the foreground, surrounded by dense evergreen trees. In the background, there are rolling mountains under a dramatic sky with heavy, grey clouds. A vibrant rainbow is visible, arching across the sky from the left side towards the center. The overall mood is serene and majestic.

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

The Board dedicated 2017 as the Year of Celebrating Sacred Space, when we hope to complete Temple construction, start landscaping, and communicate the story through various media. 2017 will be a time of invitation and celebration as the energy and intent of the Temple ripples out — through our celebrations in August and through special programs such as a design master class being offered by Patkau Architects.

Looking ahead we see the upcoming years as an opening to a next phase in the Ashram's development — extending out to expanded audiences and relationships while maintaining the heart of the teachings. Just like the Temple, we will blend innovation with continuity. The Temple will also demand that we review and upgrade other Ashram facilities, asking: What needs to change? Will we need new residences? What retrofits and renovations are important to better support those who come? Decades-old facilities — buildings, water, sewer, roads, pathways — need attention. Systematic planning will become a priority. We are like a small village with a public-works department in need of substantial financial and staffing/Karma Yoga.

Our plan, as the Temple comes to completion, is to engage in multi-year planning to take action on the trends we are seeing, to review and generate ideas to keep the Ashram financially sustainable for future generations. We will also be discussing care for our dedicated seniors and exploring succession in order to continue this lineage of precious teachings. 🌿



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