



Annual Report 2016—2017





Mission Statement

The Ki-Low-Na Friendship Society will provide for the mental, emotional, physical and spiritual well-being of all peoples through the development of community-based services, while encouraging the community to preserve, share and promote Aboriginal cultural distinctiveness.

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A Message From the President



It has been a busy year here at the Ki-Low-Na Friendship Society (KFS). Through our doors have passed many community members from youth and families, to Elders. So many members of our community from all walks of life and all nations are touched in some way by the Friendship Centre. This includes our dedicated staff and volunteers.

The Friendship Centre is a second home to some of the most vulnerable members of our community. Our lobby offers a safe place for them to sit down, warm-up in the winter or cool down in the summer, and there is always a warm cup of coffee waiting for them. Our programming serves people in all four stages of life: infants, youth, adults, and Elders—with a wide variety of services including outreach and housing services,

affordable rental housing, parenting programs, mental health services, addictions counseling services, education, and Elder care.

I would like to express my gratitude for the valuable partnerships we have developed with various levels of government, other community service providers, and the local business community, all of whom contribute to the success of our programs and events. I also want to thank my fellow members of the Board of Directors, our Executive Director, and the many hard-working staff, summer students, and interns who have all made the Friendship Centre a second home not only for the people we serve, but for themselves as well.

Last, but definitely not least, I want to say lim' limpt to our dedicated volunteers! Without our volunteers, we could not offer such vital programs and events as our Saturday Outreach Breakfast, Family Night, Elders' Luncheons, our National Aboriginal Day Turtle Island Festival, and many others. Please consider supporting the Friendship Centre by volunteering.

All my relations.

Dinah Littlechief
President

Board of Directors

President: Dinah Littlechief

Vice-President: Jean-Anne Copley

Secretary: Ann Bell

Treasurer: Dr. R. Robin Dods

Board Member: Jessie Nyberg

Youth Member: Michael Mucha



A Message From the Executive Director



Wai to all my relations.

On behalf of the Ki-Low-Na Friendship Society (KFS), I am honoured to offer this annual report. We are working hard to increase holistic opportunities for our urban Aboriginal people. There are many needs and challenges facing our families, youth, and Elders. These include: social issues; housing and emergency shelters; alcohol and drugs; cultural; educational; and many other daily issues that impact our people.

I would like to thank our current Team Leaders: Cam, Kim, Tina, Carmen, Alana, and Sheridan for their support and guidance to their teams. With their leadership, the staff work as a team to provide the best service to our community. Many of the Team Leaders also represent KFS on community advisory committees that relate to their specific teams.

We are proud to have opened our new 86 unit affordable housing project in the Central Green neighbourhood, *i spa-us ki-low-na Heart of Kelowna*. We welcomed our first tenants at the end of October 2016, and held our Grand Opening ceremony in February 2017.

We are also proud to announce that our proposal to develop 48 units of affordable housing at our Margaret's Landing property in the Black Mountain neighbourhood has been accepted by BC Housing. Preliminary design work, surveying, and planning are being completed now, and we anticipate construction to begin in the latter half of 2017.



Our programming and staffing continues to evolve. Our Downtown Education program ended in March of this year, and other programs have expanded. At the end of January this year, Cam Martin, our longtime Program Manager, retired. Cam is continuing as a consultant on the Margaret's Landing project. We are happy to welcome Tina Larouche to the KFS team as our new Program Manager.

We continue to participate in and/or host a number of community events including: Sisters In Spirit, Lake Country Native Association Family Winter Gathering, National Aboriginal Day, Kelowna Culture Days, World Film Festival, Aboriginal Career Fair, National Aboriginal Addictions Awareness Week, Salvation Army Christmas Kettle Campaign, Honour Your Health, Childrens' Christmas Party, Elders' Christmas Party, and Feed The People.

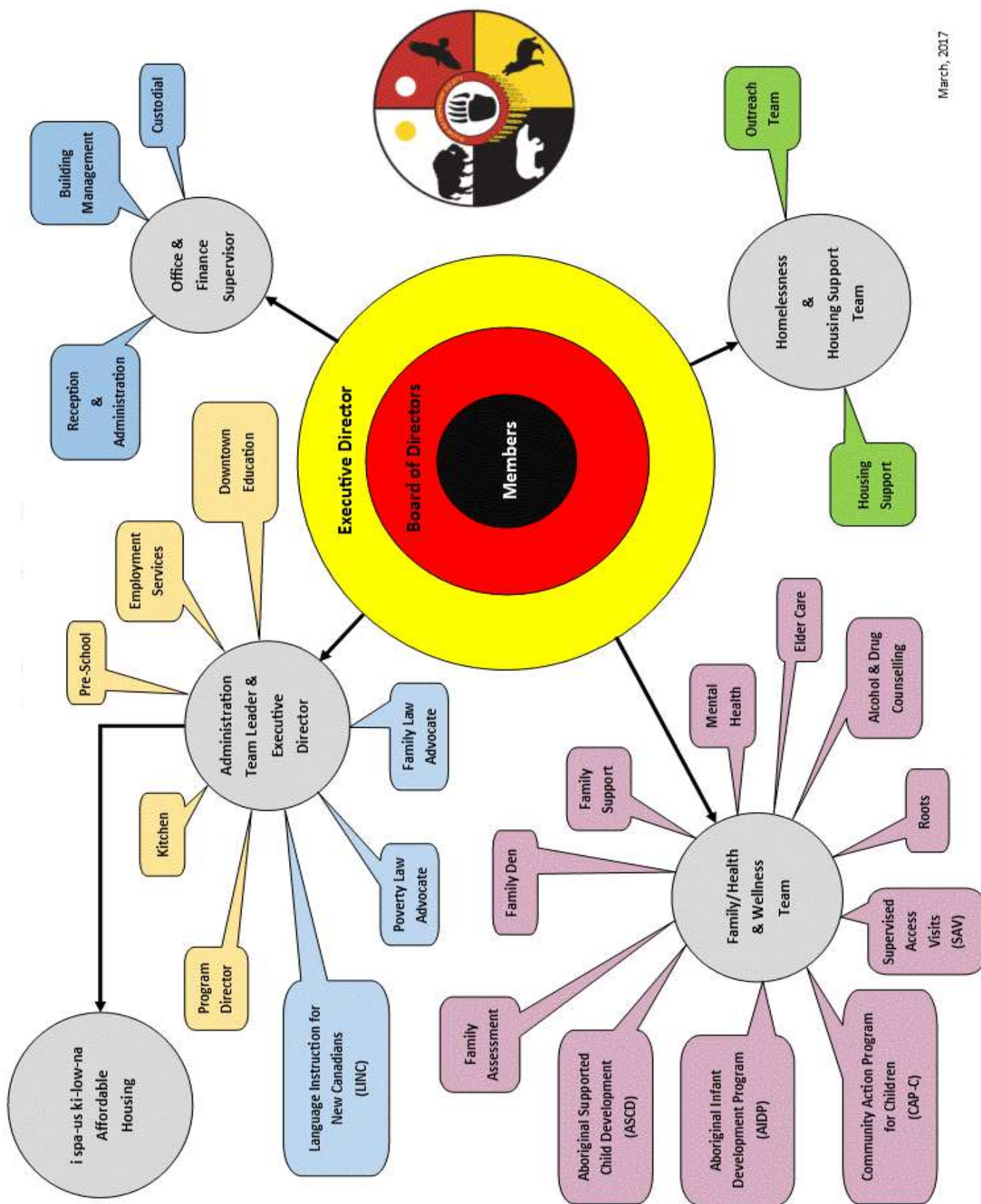
Lim' limpt to the Board of Directors, staff, volunteers, and community members for their continuing support and time in assisting our Friendship Centre to meet the many needs and challenges of our people who walk through our front doors.

All my relations.

Edna Terbasket
Executive Director



Organizational Structure

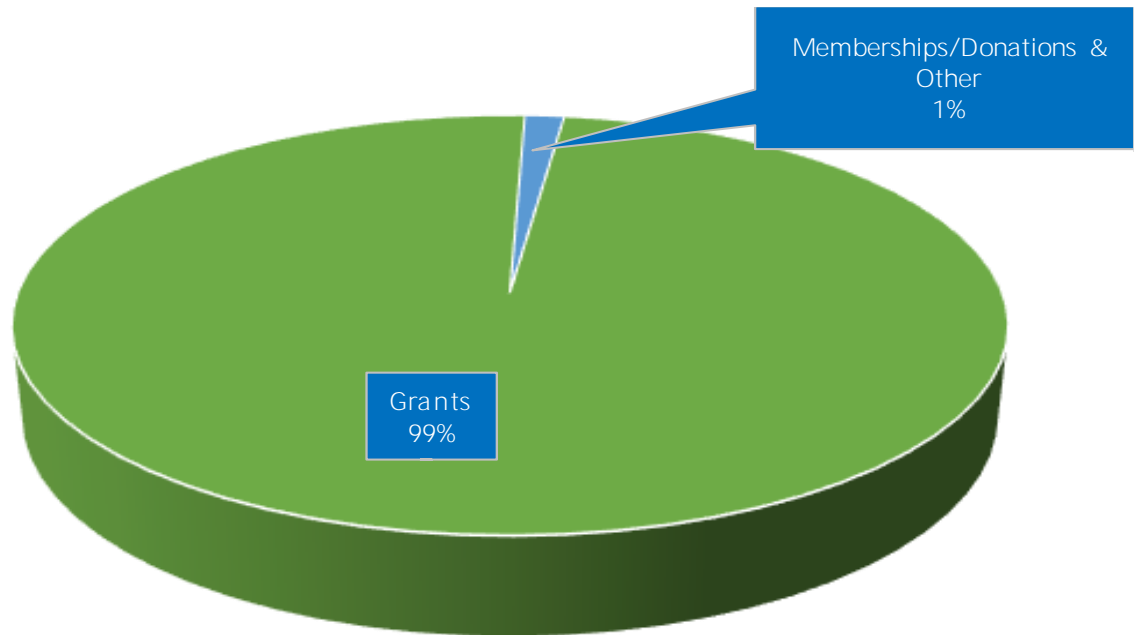


March, 2017

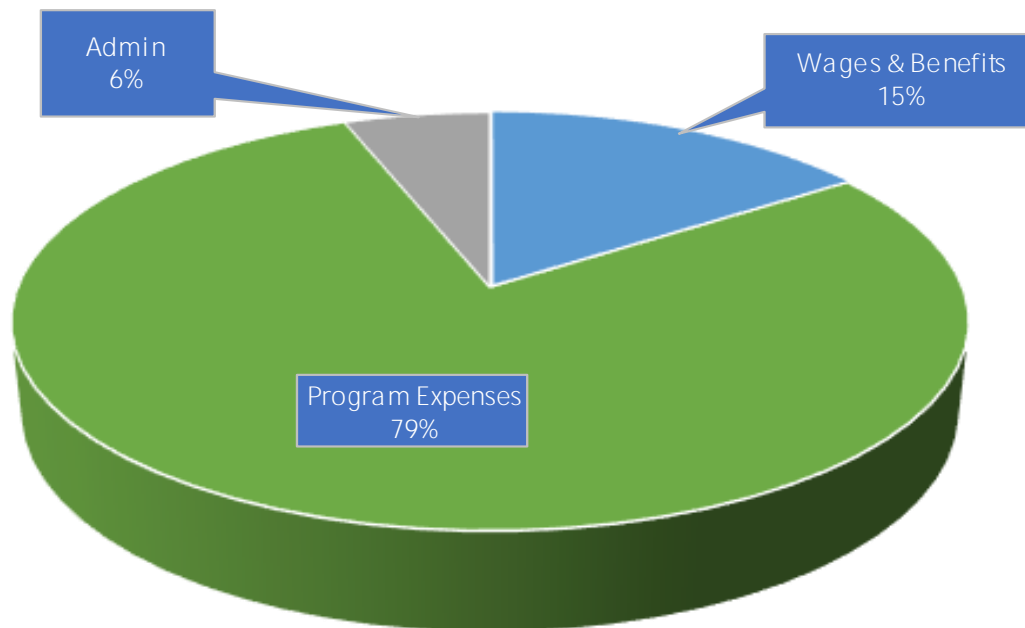


Revenue & Expenses Overview

Revenue



Expenses



Administration & Finance Report

It has been another busy year at the Ki-Low-Na Friendship Society (KFS). Some programs have ended, and others have expanded. Here are some of the highlights from this year:

- Construction on our 86-unit affordable housing project *i spa-us ki-low-na Heart of Kelowna* in the Central Green neighbourhood was completed in October 2016, and our first tenants moved in on October 31st. As of the end of the 2016-2017 fiscal year, we are at almost 100% occupancy.
- Our proposal to develop 48 units of affordable housing on our Margaret's Landing property in the Black Mountain neighbourhood was accepted by BC Housing, and preliminary planning and design work is now well underway. We expect to begin construction in 2017, with units available for occupancy in June 2019.
- Funding for our Outreach programs was increased, allowing for an expansion of staffing and services, including the purchase of housing 'start-up kits', which contain basic household necessities to help clients transition into permanent housing.
- Our Community Gaming Grant was approved, allowing us to continue many important programs and events such as the Community Computer Lab, Family Night, Elders' Luncheon, and various Christmas and holiday events.
- Funding for the *Family Law Advocate* pilot project was continued.
- The original funding for *Our Family Is Sacred* program, which focuses on the issue of domestic violence ended, and we are happy to report that this program will continue into the 2017-2018 fiscal year with a new source of funding.
- Funding for the *Downtown Education Project*, which delivered classes for students facing multiple barriers to post-secondary education here at the Friendship Centre, ended this year.

We have also been able to complete several capital improvement projects this year, including new flooring in our offices at 477 Leon Avenue, a new and permanent pedestal for the bear sculpture, a new grease-trap for the kitchen, and a gate and fencing for the area outside of the main office.

Special thanks to Jacqueline Wilkes and Jeremy Bowers for their dedication and support in assisting clients, and supporting the many programs here at KFS. Also special thanks to Noel Ferguson who keeps our buildings clean and performs many minor repairs.

As always, we encourage everyone in our community to get to know the services available here at KFS, and to sign-up as a volunteer for one or more of our many special events. Thank-you again for your support!

Kim Draney
Office & Finance Manager



Health, Safety, and Facilities Report

Each year is busy and active at the Friendship Centre, and health and safety as well as general building management is no exception. We operate or own buildings at several locations: our main offices at 442 and 477 Leon Avenue in downtown Kelowna, the Family Den in Rutland, Margaret's Landing in the Black Mountain neighbourhood, and i spa-us ki-low-na/Heart of Kelowna near downtown Kelowna in the Central Green neighbourhood. Additionally, we operate two passenger vans and a utility trailer.

The following inspections were undertaken this year:

- Restaurant Inspection (Interior Health) of kitchen facilities – September 2016: no corrective action needed.
- Annual inspection of Fire & Safety Equipment (Centurion 2000 Fire Protection) – January 2017.
- Twice-yearly maintenance and inspection of Heating/Ventilation/Air-conditioning units at 442 & 477 Leon Avenue buildings (Brown Mechanical Services) – Spring and Autumn 2016.



- Twice-yearly provincial safety inspection of passenger vans (OK Tire): no corrective action needed. Routine maintenance is also conducted at these times.
- Monthly inspection of fire & safety equipment (KFS staff): all fire extinguishers and emergency lighting are inspected to ensure they are functional. These inspections are logged as required by City of Kelowna by-laws.
- Daily inspections of refrigeration equipment in kitchen (KFS staff): as required by Interior Health, temperature and proper functioning of freezers and refrigeration equipment is conducted and logged.

Three staff members underwent First Aid/CPR training this year, and all front-line staff have received training in the safe administration of naloxone—a drug that counteracts the effects of an overdose. In addition to our Kitchen Coordinator, several other staff also have Food Safe certification.

The bear sculpture now sits on a proper concrete pedestal, and a new door from the main lobby to the Outreach/Employment offices has been installed. Also, the front area outside of the main office has been fenced off to reduce vandalism and illegal activities after-hours adjacent to the building.

All buildings, facilities, and vehicles are in good repair and are fully inspected and licensed as required by law. A Safety Committee oversees and addresses any health and safety concerns, educates staff on health and safety issues, and conducts periodic fire drills. All required safety and sanitation plans are in place.

Jeremy Bowers
Program Support

i spa-us ki-low-na Affordable Housing

At the end of October 2016, the Ki-Low-Na Friendship Society's (KFS) long-anticipated affordable housing project in the Central Green neighbourhood, *i spa-us ki-low-na* / *The Heart of Kelowna*, welcomed its first tenants. *i spa-us ki-low-na* is an nsyilxcən term that means "the heart of Kelowna", an apt description of this project, which offers affordable rental housing near the downtown 'heart' of Kelowna, with easy access to services, transit, and other amenities.

The first seeds for this project were planted several years ago with previous project proposals submitted to BC Housing for re-development of property already owned by KFS. In 2010, KFS was invited by the City of Kelowna and BC Housing to operate *White Buffalo Lodge*, a low-barrier transitional housing program in a former motel purchased by the City. The success of this program led to the acceptance, in January 2014, of KFS's proposal to build and operate affordable housing on the City's Central Green site.

Construction began in June 2015, and was officially completed in mid-October 2016. *i spa-us ki-low-na* features 86 units: eight studio apartments, 34 one-bedroom apartments, 32 two-bedroom apartments, eight three-bedroom apartments, and four fully wheelchair-accessible one-bedroom apartments. Tenants range from students, to seniors, working professionals, refugees, and people on disability benefits.

As part of the original proposal submission, KFS had to put up the Family Den property as collateral. We are happy to report that, due to lower interest rates on the mortgage for *i spa-us ki-low-na*, and other lower costs, we have been able to keep the Family Den property.

In February 2017, we held our Grand Opening, which was attended by the Mayor and City Councilors of Kelowna; area MLAs; officials from BC Housing and the Aboriginal Housing Management Association; representatives from the contractors, architects, and consultants on this project: VanMar Constructors Inc., Patrick McCusker Architecture Inc., and Innovative Housing Consultants Inc.; as well as several of our tenants at *i spa-us ki-low-na*.

We are happy to report that we have achieved full occupancy, and we are maintaining a long waiting list of people interested in living at *i spa-us ki-low-na*. There continues to be a tremendous need for more affordable housing options in the Kelowna area.

Tina Larouche
Program Manager

Jeremy Bowers
Program Support



BC Housing



i spa-us ki-low-na Snapshots...



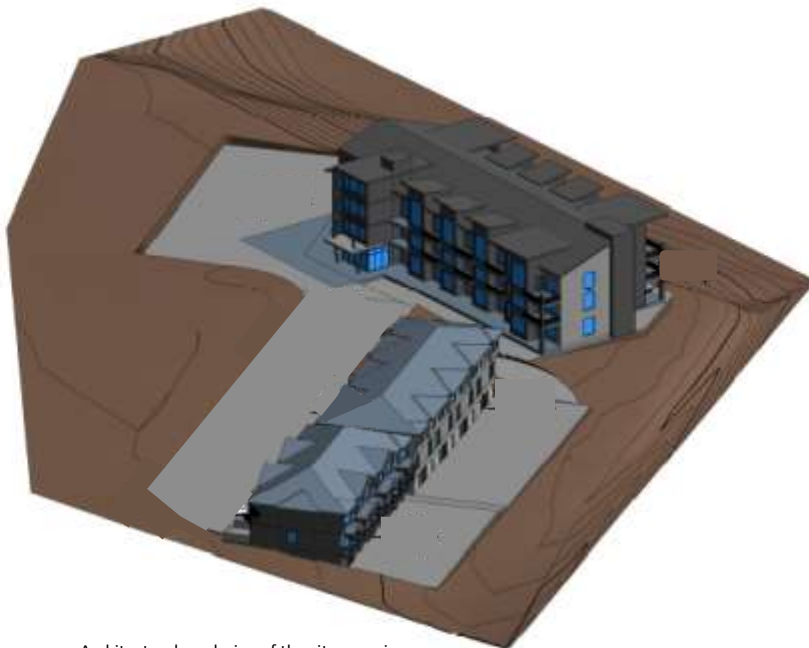
Margaret's Landing Affordable Housing

The Ki-Low-Na Friendship Society's (KFS) plans to develop affordable rental housing in the Black Mountain neighbourhood have moved forward quickly this past year. KFS submitted a proposal to BC Housing in June 2016 to develop townhouses and apartments on the property next to Black Mountain Elementary School. In March 2017, BC Housing gave KFS preliminary project approval to move forward with the development.

The project will feature two components: 14 three and four bedroom townhouses, and a 34 unit apartment building featuring one-bedroom and two-bedroom suites. Two of the apartments will be full disability suites. The development will meet BC Housing's new environmental and energy efficiency guidelines, and landscaping plans for the site include a focus on environmentally-friendly materials.



Architectural rendering of the proposed townhomes.
Image credit: Patrick McCusker Architecture Inc.



Architectural rendering of the site overview.
Image credit: Patrick McCusker Architecture Inc.

The Ki-Low-Na Friendship Society is partnering with the same development team that worked from start to finish on the 86-unit *i-spa-us ki-low-na* building at Central Green:

- Innovative Housing Consultants Inc.
- Patrick McCusker Architecture Inc.
- VanMar Constructors Inc.

Rental units at Margaret's Landing will be available for occupancy in June 2019.

Cam Martin
Project Manager



Community Kitchen

Our Community Kitchen is a focal point of almost all activities here at the Friendship Centre. The sharing of food is an integral part of Indigenous culture, and healthy meals are an important part of many of our programs. Some of the programs and activities supported by the kitchen include: Community Action Program for Children, Elders' Luncheons, Family Night, Feed The People, Childrens' Christmas Party, Saturday Outreach Breakfast, and Our Family Is Sacred.

We also have provided catering services for community events such as the Okanagan College Exhibition Pow Wow, Aboriginal Career Fair, Sisters In Spirit Vigil, World Film Festival, and Culture Days. Also, coffee is always available to our community members, as well as occasional snacks.

Many thanks to the volunteers who help to make our many delicious meals possible!

Deanna Donald
Kitchen Coordinator



Community Computer Lab

The Community Computer Lab is available to community members who may not otherwise have access to a computer and the internet. Staff and volunteers are available to assist clients with computer-related questions and issues, and to help clients gain basic computer skills. This enables clients to search for employment, shelter, or to fill out on-line applications.

In addition to the main computer lab, where four workstations and a printer are available two to three afternoons per week, there are also three additional workstations and a printer available during all business hours in the Employment/Outreach area.

Thanks to dedicated volunteers, we have been able to keep the main computer lab more widely available to the community, as well as being able to offer free tax preparation and on-line tax filing services.

Jeremy Bowers
Program Support

We acknowledge the financial assistance of the Province of British Columbia.



Events & Volunteer Coordinator

The Ki-Low-Na Friendship Society (KFS) is continuing to strengthen and build meaningful relationships with Kelowna-based and out-of-town organizations. The Restorative Justice Theatre, World Community Film Festival, and Kelowna Culture Days are just a few community events that are becoming yearly highlights for us. The Ki-Low-Na Friendship Society continues to work towards providing the Aboriginal urban population with programs, services, and events that help people to make positive lifestyle choices.

KFS continues to develop our volunteer base. A noticeable asset this year has been having our Language Instruction for New Canadians (LINC) students participate in the Elders' Luncheons. It is a win-win situation for all involved, as the students gain numerous language and work-related skills, with many volunteer hours to put on resumés.

Participants in KFS events: 5,520

Number of volunteers: 307

Volunteer hours: 1,398

Freda McLean
Events Coordinator

Raylene Alphonse
Events Assistant

We acknowledge the financial assistance of the Province of British Columbia.



Our Volunteers...



Skəmxist Pre-School

Skəmxist preschool runs Monday through Friday, September to June. We have a three year-old class on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:30 to 12:30; and a four year-old class that is on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. this class runs from 9:30 to 1:00. There are 10 children enrolled in the Monday/Wednesday/ Friday class and 10 children in the Tuesday/Thursday class. There are two staff employed at Skəmxist preschool: one Early Childhood Educator with special need certification, and an Early Childhood Assistant. Currently one staff has their Class 4 drivers license.

During the school year, we give the children the opportunity to try many new things while they are at preschool, this includes field trips into the community such as the pumpkin patch, going to a hair salon, visiting Kangaroo farm, Museum, bowling, petting zoo, and the bakery.

Skəmxist preschool curriculum incorporates Aboriginal culture that include cultural teachers coming into the preschool. Visits include n s y i l x c ə n language, songs, art, and tradition foods for the children to try. This year we also included a parent participation drum making workshop. The curriculum is play-based giving the children the opportunity to explore, turn take, problem solve, independence, and choice taking. Throughout the year, we are prepping the children for their entry into kindergarten. We provide the children with the knowledge and skills that they will need to succeed such as, learning to print their names, shapes, colours, using scissors, identifying letters and numbers.

Alice Ryder
Pre-School Coordinator



Funding for this program is provided by the B.C. Ministry of Children and Family Development.



What makes you happy?



Aboriginal Supported Child Development

Aboriginal Supported Child Development (ASCD) is a program designed for kids aged five to eighteen years who have developmental delays or disabilities. Support is offered in a variety of ways that are flexible to fit to the individual child's needs. This is all done with a culturally sensitive approach, while keeping the children close to their roots and traditions.

Some examples of support are: Play Therapy, Art Therapy, Equine Therapy, educational games and events, outdoor activities, one-to-one support, supported learning, volunteering, traditional arts, connecting children and families to community resources and events, cooking and general life skills, theatre/expressive therapy, hiking, gardening, and much more. This past year, ASCD has really developed and grown into a successful program.

Families supported: 20

Children supported: 45

Hours of individual intervention: 320

Hours of group intervention: 175

Some of our successes this year have been: participation in Camp Dunlop; YMCA Healthy Kid's Day 2016; Girl Power groups; running a homework club; participation in the Strengthening Families program; Children's Literacy Summer Camp here at the Friendship Centre; a full spring break schedule which included: cooking, crafts, outdoor activities, bowling, Energyplex, pottery painting, movies, and swimming—all with an excellent turn-out.

I look forward to continuing working with children here at Ki-Low-Na Friendship Society. I hope to expand the program for continued success and growth in supporting the children families in our community.

"It's easier to build strong children than to repair broken men."

~Fredrick Douglass

Ember Hofer

ASCD Worker



Funding for this program is provided by the B.C. Ministry of Children and Family Development.



Roots

The Ki-Low-Na Friendship Society (KFS) in partnership with the Ministry of Children and Family Development (MCFD) runs *The Child's Roots Are Forever* program. The program ensures Aboriginal children in the care of MCFD have a cultural plan of care that is respecting, preserving and promoting the child's Aboriginal identity.

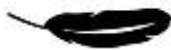
The goals of the Roots program include connecting Aboriginal children with their families, community, culture, heritage and Forever families. The Roots program assists Aboriginal communities in connecting and reclaiming children and youth in MCFD care. The program nurtures a sense of belonging and connections for children with their birth family, extended family and community members.

The KFS Roots program also supports Aboriginal adults with or without children with gaining their status.

Freda McLean
Roots Worker



Funding for this program is provided by the B.C. Ministry of Children and Family Development.



Aboriginal Infant Development Program

This year, we were fortunate to receive an increase in our Aboriginal Infant Development Program (AIDP) funding, and were able to increase our program services.

AIDP provides culturally sensitive support for families with children ages 0 - 5 who are at risk or have developmental delays. This year, the program worked with 79 children to support healthy growth and development.

A few achievements we would like to highlight:

- we had an Interactive Story-Telling program at the Central Okanagan HUB start in August, running twice a week. We saw that there was a need for a change, and changed the programming in one of those slots to Tumble Bumble.
- In partnership with our CAPC program we also completed a Bringing Traditions Home group. A Strengthening Our Families program was run with conjunction of our Family Support Team, Aboriginal Supported Child Development, CAPC, & Mental Health to support many families.

Our AIDP program incorporates all four aspects of the Medicine Wheel to ensure that child(ren) & families experience healthy mental, social, emotional, physical, and spiritual growth. This support may include:

- home visits
- play-groups
- educational programs
- parenting support & enhancing parenting skills
- developmental screening assessments
- individual activity plans that support each child's healthy development; and
- linking families to cultural teachings and activities.

We would like to thank Rona Sterling-Collins for her work in supporting the development of new activities for the AIDP program.

Meghan Toews
AIDP Worker

Funding for this program is provided by the B.C. Ministry of Children and Family Development.



Community Action Program for Children

The Community Action Program for Children (CAP-C) is a community-based children's program that promotes the healthy development of young children (0-6 years). To Increase the health and social development for aboriginal families and Children. While every CAP-C site is unique, they all share these *Guiding Principles* as their foundation:

- Children First
- Equity and Accessibility
- Community Based
- Strengthening and Supporting Families
- Flexibility

Our CAP-C program helps with enhancing traditional parenting skills, increasing confidence, building community, and relationships. It results in a healthier population and greater involvement by communities. It focuses on prevention and health promotion and supports a wide range of programs and services from primary intervention. This initiative is based on a more family-centred strengths-based model.

Some of our activities this year have included: traditional teachings by Elders, Too Hot For Tots, car seat safety, childhood illness & SIDS education, Families are Sacred, Bringing Tradition Home: Aboriginal Parenting in Today's World, medicine picking, Mindfulness for Your Well-Being, food skills, and nutrition. Additionally, outdoor and fitness activities were offered, such as: Honour Your Health Challenge, gardening, swimming, and yoga. All CAP-C sessions include a nutritious lunch as well as light snacks.

Our CAP-C program also partners with several community agencies and professionals to enhance the program. We had regular visits from an IHCAN Speech Therapist, Public Health Nurses and dental hygienists.

This past year, we had a total of 722 parents and 586 children attend our CAP-C program.

Elya Martinson
CAP-C Coordinator



Funding for this program is provided by the Public Health Agency of Canada.



In the Community...

Kelowna Culture Days



Gathering Our Voices



Sisters In Spirit Vigil



Crossing the Lake







Family Support

The Family Support Program's goal is to assist Urban Aboriginal parents to be successful and gain confidence in their ability to maintain a healthy family. Referrals to the program are received from Ministry of Children and Family Development (MCFD) and self-referrals through Ki-Low-Na Friendship Society (KFS).

The program supports Urban Aboriginal parents who are involved with MCFD and have, or may be at risk of having their child(ren) removed. The family support workers attend MCFD intake meetings, Family Court, family group conferences, and legal mediations. They also provide emotional support, transportation, in-house referrals, community support referrals, client follow-up, and support at MCFD meetings. Parents are guided and supported by the Family Support Worker to understand and follow through with court conditions and MCFD requirements in order for family reunification to take place.

Highlights for the 2016-2017 fiscal year:

- Provided support services to over 147 clients.
- Team collaboration with:
 - Okanagan Nation Alliance: Family Decision Making.
 - KFS Outreach: advocating housing needs, providing transportation for rental viewing.
- Food Bank: providing families with means of transport from community food bank.
- Court: assisting with obtaining and providing direction for legal services.
- Benefits: access to food bank, Salvation Army, and assisting families find suitable daycare services.
- MCFD: emotional support.

Additionally, the program provides assistance and guidance for networking in support of clients to obtain other mental health, legal or social services professionals. Consulting on behalf of clients with professionals who provide comprehensive care and to ensure that the clients' needs are being adequately met. Also, educating clients on a variety of relevant mental health and social service-related topics, such as: online training courses that provide education on parenting, parent-child interaction, discipline, job skills, child development, abuse prevention or prenatal care; as well as providing educational services on a one-on-one, family, or group basis is an important component of the program.

Arnold Akachuk
Family Support Worker

Veronica Winser
Family Support Worker



Funding for this program is provided by the B.C. Ministry of Children and Family Development.



Family Assessment

The Family Assessment program works with urban Aboriginal families who are involved with, or at risk of involvement with the Ministry of Child and Family Development (MCFD). The Family Assessment Worker can assist with developing and implementing safety plans with MCFD in a holistic, culturally sensitive approach; attend case conferences and MCFD meetings as a support and/or advocate, provide one-on-one emotional support, and in-house referrals and community referrals as needed. The Family Assessment Worker is a part of multidisciplinary team working to empower and improve urban Aboriginal children and families in a good way.

Clients served: 663

New clients: 231

Direct hours of service: 1,150

Additionally, we offered 10-week *Girl Power* group for girls ages 9-12 years-old during the fall, winter and spring. *Girl Power* promotes healthy body image, cultural identity, and increases skills and abilities to cope with upcoming teen challenges.

Sheridan Terbasket
Family Assessment Worker



Funding for this program is provided by the B.C. Ministry of Children and Family Development.



Family Den

The Family Den is a family transition house which supports Urban Aboriginal families in the family reunification process by providing a safe, caring, semi-supervised housing and parenting program. Residents at the Family Den must be involved with the Ministry of Child and Family Development (MCFD). Residents are required to be drug and alcohol-free. Families must be willing to work with MCFD and the Ki-Low-Na Friendship Society (KFS), and participate in KFS programs. Families are required to work on their MCFD recommendations, and volunteer as a way of giving back to their community. Most families have a six-month to one-year stay at the Family Den while learning parenting and life skills.

Arnold Akachuk
Family Support Worker



Supervised Access Visitation

The Ki-Low-Na Friendship Society (KFS) provides supervised access visits for Aboriginal families involved with the Ministry of Children and Family Development. The purpose of the Supervised Access Visit (SAV) program is to ensure the safety of children, and to encourage the maintenance of family relationships. The program currently has myself as the only supervisor who attends and supports visits with the families referred. We are hoping to hire two additional part-time SAV workers to accommodate more visits. We are currently working with eight families and accommodating approximately 16 visits per week.

The SAV program supports families in a variety of ways:

- Positive parent-child relationships are encouraged, and when needed, workers provide gentle suggestions, model appropriate interactions, or protect children from harm if a family member's behavior is in breach of specific guidelines.
- Whenever appropriate, the program allows families to visit with children in an environment where they feel most comfortable – such as at their home or in the community. For cases where this may not be an option, KFS has two comfortable visiting rooms available that all families are welcome to use located at KFS. Our family rooms have recently received a make-over, with a number of new toys and activities added for the families to enjoy.

Overall, the goals of the program are to maintain healthy relationships while supporting Aboriginal families to cope with the separation they may be experiencing, and to support children with the process of integrating back into their families and/or communities.

Amara J. Waldram
Supervised Access Visit Coordinator



Funding for this program is provided by the B.C. Ministry of Children and Family Development.



Staff Snapshots...



Family Law Advocate

The Family Law Advocate program provides support, advice, and full representation (document preparation) for low-income clients who have family law matters either in Provincial or Supreme Court. The Family Law Advocate cannot represent clients in court so all clients who access the program are self-represented litigants. Family law matters include: divorce, division of assets, child and spousal support and parenting time (custody) and protection orders. For clients whose issues are beyond the scope of the Family Law Advocate program we provide referrals to Legal Aid, Access Pro Bono, Family Duty Counsel and the Family Law Line.

The Family Law Advocate works closely with a supervising lawyer, and receives ongoing training by attending legal training conferences, legal information workshops, and webinars.

The Family Law Advocate continues to promote the program by actively networking with other community partners, by providing community legal education and by participating in the Friendship Society events such as National Aboriginal Addictions Awareness Week.

We are happy to report that we successfully passed a rigorous evaluation of the Family Law Advocate program and received continuing funding for another year.

Debra Apperley
Family Law Advocate

Our law advocacy programs served over 1,000 clients.

Poverty Law Advocate

The Poverty Law Advocate program provides poverty law services to clients in Kelowna and surrounding areas. The program is open to anyone who comes through our doors. The program offers a wide range of Poverty Law services such as: Aboriginal Status applications, Persons with Disabilities and CPP Disability applications and appeals, Income Assistance appeals, Residential Tenancy issues, human rights complaints, Employment Standards cases, as well as referrals, case management, and other legal service information. Criminal cases are referred to the Native Court Worker or Duty Counsel. The program provides limited assistance with civil (small claims) matters. The program works closely with a supervising lawyer.

The Advocate attends legal information workshops and conferences in order to have the most updated skills and knowledge to most effectively help clients. Additionally, the Legal Advocate also continues to network closely with other agencies in the community in an effort to ensure that we are able to provide the best possible information and services to, and to ensure community awareness of the program. The program has had numerous successes with appeal and arbitration hearings.

Yolonda Beaudry
Poverty Law Advocate



Funding for these programs is provided by the Law Foundation of British Columbia.



Downtown Education Project

The Downtown Education Project was a pilot project partnership between UBC Okanagan (UBCO) and the Ki-Low-Na Friendship Society (KFS). This project started in January 2015 with its first cohort of students. The project consisted of the UBC Writing 009 course being offered at the Friendship Centre, with instruction from a UBCO instructor. The goal of the Downtown Education Project was to increase access to post-secondary studies for urban Aboriginal adult learners. The target student group was existing clients of KFS programs. By offering the course at the Friendship Centre, the aim was provide the class and supplementary non-academic programming in an environment that was familiar to students. The students were able to learn in an environment where they received services and where they could connect with program facilitators and support workers who would be able to assist them in achieving academic success.

This year, we also worked with Okanagan College (OC) to provide workshops that helped students who completed the Writing 009 program with other valuable skills such as budgeting, job searching, time-management, and conflict resolution.

For the Writing 009 program, 25 people were interviewed & screened, 15 clients were selected to participate in program, eight clients initially enrolled, and six clients successfully completed the program. The students enrolled in the Writing 009 were primarily adult learners with 100% of this cohort being female.

The OC workshops, facilitated by John Singleton, were attended consistently by four clients, all of whom were clients in other programs at KFS. This group was a mixed cohort.

While we had a smaller sized cohort this year, this worked out well in the end to facilitate group connection and cohesiveness. In overall terms, we think this project certainly met our projected outcomes, but on a smaller scale than we had anticipated. In terms of student recruitment, it was tough to find students who could commit to such an intensive schedule. The students who completed the program reported that this program changed their perspectives on themselves and their lives. We have received confirmation at this point (early April) that at least two of our students are enrolling in post-secondary studies at UBCO, so we consider that a huge success.

Funding for this pilot project ended at the end of this fiscal year.

Veronica Roesler
Education Coordinator

Virginie Fostroy
Education Assistant



This program was funded in partnership with the B.C. Association of Aboriginal Friendship Centres and the University of British Columbia Okanagan.



Language Instruction for Newcomers to Canada

The Language Instruction for Newcomers to Canada (LINC) program is free of charge to qualified students who are newly arrived in Canada. LINC provides basic and intermediate language training for adult newcomers to Canada. This year, we added an additional afternoon class. We now operate five classes at eight levels to help immigrants settle in Canada. LINC classes help students speak and understand English for day-to-day life (housing, banking, work, etc.), get job skills, learn about Canadian life and Aboriginal culture, laws, health care and society, obtain the language requirement for citizenship, and make new friends. As part of our program, we volunteer, go on field trips, and bring in guest speakers.

The Ki-Low-Na Friendship Society is unique in Canada as being the only Aboriginal organization providing immigrant services. This year we had 172 students attend our classes. We have very multicultural classes, with students coming from all over the world: Syria, China, Ukraine, Kazakhstan, Korea, Iran, Mexico, India, Vietnam, Thailand, Philippines, Lebanon, Poland, Argentina, Taiwan, Japan, Russia, Peru, and Afghanistan.

Some Highlights:

- A visit to the City of Kelowna Mayor's office by the students. The students were able to introduce themselves and shake hands with the Mayor.
- One of the first of many wonderful highlights from the afternoon class was a potluck where the students were able to converse with other students, share their culture and showcase their country's food. The students loved to talk about their own culture and the new Syrian students were excited to share their dishes and food preferences.
- The students from some classes participated in a scavenger hunt of downtown Kelowna at the beginning of the school year in September. It was a lot of fun and a great way for students to meet and get to know a little more about Kelowna.
- Other students enjoyed volunteering for the monthly Elder's Lunches here at the Friendship Centre, where they helped prepare the food, set up and cleaned up, and served the food.

All of our classes had the opportunity to experience the 8th Annual Pow-Wow: Youth Exhibition. It was a great chance for newcomers to Canada to learn more about Aboriginal Culture and to see the special regalia and watch the Hoop Dances. A few of the students were invited to participate in the opening ceremony as flag recipients.

I would like to thank our LINC team for a successful year: Emily Hardy, Anita Veal, Miae Choi, Carrie Skinner and Cathay Gibson.

Alana Turigan
LINC Coordinator

Funded by:



Immigration, Refugees
and Citizenship Canada

Financé par :

Immigration, Réfugiés
et Citoyenneté Canada



Additional funding for this program is provided by the B.C. Ministry of Jobs, Tourism, and Skills Training.



LINC Snapshots...



Addictions Counselling

Our prevention and treatment programs at the Ki-Low-Na Friendship Society (KFS) are developed around the traditional and holistic teachings of the Medicine Wheel. The goal is to assist individuals to recover to a physical, emotional, mental and spiritual state of health.

Through addictions counseling within a culturally appropriate framework, each individual receives the respect needed to grow and develop a healthy sense of pride and personal responsibility. Culture is an important part of individual and collective empowerment. It highlights the interdependence of personal values, beliefs, attitudes and behavior. Cultural knowledge strengthens treatment and prevention. We provide assessment, counseling, prevention and educational material workshops and referrals to the appropriate support programs for people who have addictions.

Here are some of the activities completed this year:

- Provide one-on-one counseling.
- Referrals to Round Lake Treatment Centre, Namgis Substance Abuse treatment Centre Society, North Winds Healing Centre Society, Wilp Si'Satxw Society Community Healing Centre, and Maple Ridge Treatment Centre.
- Provide aftercare support to individual who complete their treatment.
- Attend case-management meetings with the B.C. Ministry of Children and Family Development and in house support staff regarding how we can help our mutual clients deal their family and other presenting problems.
- Attend Counseling Team meetings to update on the progress of the clients.
- Attend the Partners In Community Collaboration meeting every Thursday morning.
- Held a Co-ed Womens' and Mens' Wellbriety Group every Wednesday evening. It is a Medicine Wheel concept using the Alcoholics Anonymous Twelve-Step Program.
- Mens' Circle every Thursday afternoon from 1:00 pm – 3:30 pm
- Sage picking with KFS Elders.
- National Aboriginal Day, June 21, 2016.
- National Aboriginal Addictions Awareness Week 2016.
- Attend Family Nights at KFS.
- Participate in Sweat Lodge.

Randy Jim
Addictions Counsellor



Funding for this program is provided by Interior Health.



Mental Health Services

The Ki-Low-Na Friendship Society's (KFS) *Mental Health Services* provides advocacy, information, referrals, and group educational information sessions in a culturally sensitive manner. The Mental Health Worker is responsible for a vast number of clients annually, including status, non-status, Métis, Inuit, and non-Aboriginal peoples.

This year, KFS's mental health program started emphasizing group work as an approach to healing, as opposed to one-on-one work with clients. Working together as a group or community is an important aspect for Aboriginal programs and services because Aboriginal healing is relational in nature (i.e., based in relationships between all people and things). Group work is an important part of community healing, a necessary component of individual well-being. Feedback from our clients supports this, as attendance is higher for group programs compared to one-on-one interactions. Clients feel they work better with their peers, and feel safer working with other community members, particularly when it comes to mental health and wellness.

Workshops offered this year included Anger Management, Building Healthy Relationships, Anxiety, and Post-Partum Depression and Anxiety. In addition to workshops, a healthy family program called *Our Families are Very Sacred* was offered, which was a huge success. This program offered traditional approaches to healing—including regalia-making, drum-making, moccasin-making, medicine picking, sharing circles, and much more.

In total, KFS's mental health program served over 1,500 clients this year, and we look forward to expanding our programs to reach even more people in the upcoming year!

Kaela Schill
Mental Health Worker



Funding for this program is provided by Interior Health.



Elder Care

This was busy and fun year for our Elders and the Elder Care Program. Many thanks to my predecessor, Gloria Peters, who put many programs and activities together in this role before I stepped in as of November 2016. It has been an honour to serve and our Elders here at the Friendship Centre.

In the new year, our Elders formed an Elder Advisory Committee whose hard work guided our Health and Wellness Fair in March 2017, our Silent Auction at the Gathering Our Voices Conference, and further fundraising events for the 41st Elder's Gathering coming up in July 2017.

Each month from September through May, we fill the Okanagan Room with an average of 80 Elders for our lively, delicious, and informative Elders' Luncheons. We are grateful for our Elders' drumming, singing, and teachings at the luncheons, as well as at other events.

We have had many days of traditional learning and ceremony in the community and traveling through the Okanagan Valley. Roughly 80 elders enjoyed the Health and Wellness Fair and we created an Elders Advisory Committee.

The Eldercare Team is thankful for New Horizons funding which enabled Elder Circles, cultural teachings, and family mentorship gatherings. Further thanks to Interior Health whose funding provides prevention and support strategies for healthy living, and access to community services such as the Interior Health Community Outreach Clinic and other support programs. This funding also helps Elders form cultural connections, advocacy support, mentorship circles, and new community partnerships.

Moving forward, we have just begun a Womens' Drumming Group to which we welcome all female drummers, and we are hoping to form a healing circle for survivors of the Sixties Scoop and Day Schools.

In gratitude, limlimpt to all of our Elders for sharing their teachings and spirit with everyone at the Friendship Centre.

Kelly Marshall
Elder Care Coordinator



Funding for this program is provided by Interior Health.



Our Elders...



Homelessness & Housing Support

Outreach services assisted 83 individuals and families to find or maintain their housing this year. We were able to purchase housing starter and retention kits to help people get started in their new homes, as well as offering utility relief to assist people to maintain their housing. Outreach Services hosts the weekly Saturday Outreach Breakfast that serves approximately 350 – 400 people every month with the help of dedicated volunteers.

Our program is supported by two funding agencies and three contracts. BC Housing and the Central Okanagan Foundation are the funders. The Aboriginal Homeless Outreach Program (AHOP) and Homelessness Prevention Program (HPP) are funded through BC Housing, and the Homelessness Prevention Strategy (HPS) Program is funded through Central Okanagan Foundation. The AHOP and HPP programs focus their services on the prevention of homelessness. AHOP connects Aboriginal people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness with housing. We assess clients' needs, assist with personal goals, and connect individuals and families with stable accommodation and culturally appropriate services. The program is guided by these principles: (a) program services are accessible and client focused; (b) operations are transparent and accountable; (c) the service environment is safe, secure and welcoming; and (d) the sector is collaborative to improve service effectiveness.

The HPP program is an enhancement to the AHOP program, and focuses on the prevention of homelessness by targeting services to individuals and families who are homeless or at risk of homelessness due to crisis or transition. Individuals who are absolute homeless, hidden homeless, or at risk of homelessness, and are within one of the following target groups are eligible to be HPP clients: (a) people leaving the corrections and/or hospital systems; (b) women who have experienced violence or are at risk of violence; (c) youth, including those leaving the care system; or (d) people of Aboriginal descent.

The HPS program provides assistance to individuals and families to find immediate shelter or long-term housing. Clients are referred to appropriate housing in the community including Now Canada, Gospel Mission, Inn From the Cold, Willowbridge, Cardington, New Gate, and other appropriate housing and shelter facilities. Also, the program provides a broad range of services that include referrals to alcohol and drug counseling & treatment, transportation to medical appointments, help applying for Income Assistance, life skills (communication, health, nutrition, shopping, budgeting, and applying for jobs), and other appropriate counseling and ongoing case management in partnership/collaboration with other community service providers.

All Outreach programs engage and collaborate with the greater Kelowna/Central Okanagan community through Partners in Community Collaboration (PICC). PICC is a weekly networking meeting of service providers. This meeting provides an opportunity for all community support services to better know each other and the services offered and to engage in light case management for the benefit of the greater community. Also, we participate in a monthly meeting called Partners for a Healthy Downtown (PhD). PhD is a collection of RCMP, City bylaw, business community, and service providers—meeting to discuss and collaborate on problem areas and individuals in the downtown core.

Carmen Hamilton

Homelessness & Outreach Services Team Leader



Our Community...



Employment Services

I started working in the Ki-Low-Na Friendship Society's (KFS) employment services program in June 2016. My goals have been to learn policy, local resources, and to begin training as professional career practitioner through Douglas College, while servicing our local Urban Aboriginal population along with Caroline Bechtel, our employment assistant. It has been a busy year, and our client stats are double what was expected for our program.

The Ki-Low-Na Friendship Society's (KFS) employment services program works in partnership with the Okanagan Training and Development Council (OTDC). OTDC's mandate complements KFS's:

To encourage self-sufficiency for aboriginal individuals by addressing local and regional labour market and community needs and priorities through the delivery of employment and training programs and services.

Walk-in clients have access to computers, telephone, and assistance with resume writing and job search. Of our walk-in clients, an almost equal number access resumé versus job-search services. The majority of walk-in clients are Aboriginal status males. Clients also receive referrals and short-term employment counselling. Clients receiving longer-term assistance block one-hour appointments.

1,892 walk-in clients

530 employment assessments delivered

161 extended-service clients served

The extended-service assistance consisted of: employment counselling; referrals to other agencies; career research and exploration; job-search preparation strategies; job start supports; employer referrals; occupational skills training; certification, industry recognition, apprenticeship, degree, and diploma; employment retention support; skills development & academic upgrading; diagnostic assessment; self-employment; and work experience/student employment. The majority of clients accessed employment counselling, referrals to other agencies, career research, and job-search preparation strategies.

The goals for KFS/OTDC employment services for the next fiscal year have been set to reflect the needs of the local Urban Aboriginal population and anticipated trends. A few programs you can expect to see in 2017-2018 are:

- Job Club—with essential employment training such as job search/interviews.
- Youth Blade Runners—training in hospitality and tourism industry.
- Networking/partnerships with local resources for employment opportunities.

KFS Employment Services strives to service clients in a holistic way. Every client is important.

Barbara Jagodics
Employment Services Coordinator



Funding for this program is provided by the Okanagan Training & Development Council.



Our Family is Very Sacred

Our Family is Sacred has continued this year to provide supportive activities in a culturally relevant way to families and individuals who have been, or have dealt with, issues surrounding domestic violence. An average of 21—22 participants regularly attend weekly sessions and activities on Mondays and Tuesdays.

Activities this year have included: moccasin making, regalia making; drumming; ‘walks on the land’, which have included visits to Spotted Lake and medicine picking at various locations in the Okanagan; and additionally, some group participants participated in the Lake Country Winter Family Gathering.

While the original funding for this program has now ended, we are happy to report that we have secured new funding to continue this activity for the 2017-2018 fiscal year.

Many thanks to our dedicated participants, staff, Elders, and volunteers who have all made this an enriching program.

Arnold Akachuk
Family Support Worker



Funding for this program was provided by the B.C. Association of Aboriginal Friendship Centres through the Aboriginal Domestic Violence Funding Partnership Table.



Support Groups & Healing Circles

Band of Brothers

A new activity that started up this year is *Band of Brothers*. This is a mens’ social group that meets every Friday from 11:00 am—12:00 pm. Participants do various projects, and discuss experiences in their lives as they relate to the project or topic at hand. One topic that has been addressed this year is ‘Traditional Roles and Responsibilities for First Nations Men Explained’.

Mens’ Circle

Every Thursday afternoon from 1:00 pm—3:00 pm, our *Mens’ Circle* meets. Open to all men, this is a healing circle. Participants are welcomed to share and gain support from their peers in a culturally sensitive and safe way. Six to ten men participate in this circle regularly.

Wellbriety

Incorporating Twelve Step recovery concepts and traditional Medicine Wheel teachings, *Wellbriety* offers a culturally familiar road to recovery and maintenance of sobriety. Meeting weekly on Wednesdays from 5:00 pm—7:00 pm, on average approximately seven to twelve people participate regularly.



Medicine Gathering at Spotted Lake...



2017 Annual General Meeting Agenda

June 28, 2017

5:30 pm

Ki-Low-Na Friendship Society—Okanagan Room
442 Leon Avenue, Kelowna, BC

1. Call to Order

a) Opening prayer.

2. Adoption of Rules of Order

a) Adoption of agenda.

3. Minutes of Annual General Meeting: Wednesday June 29, 2016

4. Auditor's Report

a) Review and adoption of March 31, 2017 financial statement.

5. Reports

a) President's Report

b) Executive Director's Report

6. New Business

7. Nomination of Directors

8. Election of Directors

9. Adjournment

a) Closing prayer



2016 Annual General Meeting Minutes

Ki-Low-Na Friendship Society
Okanagan Room
Wednesday June 29, 2016

Meeting called to order at 5:56 pm.

1. Opening Prayer: Pat Paul

2. Adoption of the 2016 Annual General Meeting Agenda

Motion #1:

To accept the 2016 Agenda with the noted changes:

- Add PAYC Report under the Executive Director Report under section C.
- Request by guest to add an agenda item regarding the starting of a task force for public education for human rights – this will be a two-minute presentation and will be included under New Business.

Moved By: Maurice Malinaff, seconded by: Jean Anne Copley; all in favour; motion carried.

It was noted that eight members were present and quorum was met.

3. Adoption of the 2015 Annual General Meeting Minutes—Dated June 24, 2015

Edna Terbasket read the meeting minutes from the 2015 Annual General Meeting. Missing was the name of the person who conducted the opening prayer. Ann Bell will look at her notes to amend the minutes to include the name of who conducted the prayer.

Motion #2:

To approve the 2015 Annual General Meeting minutes with the corrections noted (grammar, missing words).

Moved by: Maurice Malinaff; seconded by: Ann Bell; all in favour; motion carried.

4. Auditor Report (Grant Thornton)

Tyler Neels, Partner and Auditor attended the meeting to review the March 31, 2016 Financial Audited Statements. The Board of Directors reviewed the draft version and went through the documents in more detail with Chris Meyers, Manager of Engagement.

Review of Financial Statement Included the Following:

- Independent Auditors Report
- Statement of Financial Position (Balance Sheet)
- Statement of Changes in Net Assets
- Statement of Operations which is a Condensed Version of the Income Statement
- Statement of Cash Flows

Notes to the Financial Statements (include a review of programs and useful information to support the financial documents in more detail)



Additional Notes to the Financial Statements:

Summary of Accounting Policies and there have been no significant changes.

The overall revenue increased which is largely in connection with obtaining new contracts/grants for programming. With the acquisition of new funds means there has been an increase in wages and expenses in comparison to last year.

The construction of Central Green has been a significant change to the Financial Statements. The project has a promissory note with funds being owed to BC Housing which will turn into a mortgage once the affordable housing project is completed. The estimated total amount for the affordable housing project will be \$15 Million.

Motion #3:

To accept the 2015-2016 Audited Financial Statements as presented.

Moved by Maurice Malinaff; seconded by: Kyle Tutt; all in favour; motion carried.

5. Directors' Report**President's Report:**

Dinah Littlechief reviewed her report, located on page three in the 2015-2016 Annual Report, and highlighted to the membership that Karen Vircavs started as our President but resigned as she had relocated to a new province. Dinah emphasized that the programs at the Friendship Centre are for our people, it acts as a second home, and we do the best we can and try to help everyone. The Friendship Centre is here to help all people.

Motion #4:

To accept the Presidents Report as given.

Moved by: Jessie Nyberg; seconded by: Jean-Anne Copley; all in favour; motion carried.

6. Executive Director's Report

Edna Terbasket mentioned that her written report is included in the 2015-2016 Annual Report, but offered highlights rather than reading the entire report.

Highlights:

- Talked about Central Green and the development over the next year (2016) and what that will look like, and recognize the development team: Innovative Housing, our architect, Van Mar Construction and interior designer (and so many more to mention). There has been a lot of work and details for the overall project like design and policies.
- She mentioned that there has been a lot of work up to this point to get our own affordable housing project as the Society has submitted a few proposals in the past, which were not accepted.
- Grouse Barnes has named the building with an Okanagan name and we have named the four floors using the four food chiefs; the name of the building will be shared later.
- Tenant Applications will be completed using the BC Housing registry, and we are finalizing those details within the next couple of weeks.
- White Buffalo Lodge (WBL) was a short term project with the City of Kelowna and BC Housing. The City of Kelowna purchased the La Mission Motel and gave it to us temporarily before they demolished it for the expansion of Lakeshore Road and the Mission Greenway. We were able



to support clients with short term housing for just over four years and was a pilot project which also helped us get our foot in the door for Central Green because it created an awareness of our work and a comfort level in working with us.

- BC Housing recently purchased the former Econo Lodge and have created 44 units and are using our WBL model to help run the new housing program. The WBL pilot project will help BC housing in administering their program.
- The Downtown Education Project will have one other class, and we are working on curriculum for the program. Work started with both institutions Okanagan College and University of British Columbia Okanagan, helping more students with English and Math.
- The Society applied for Senior Housing to be located at Margaret's Landing in the past, in response to a request for proposals (RFP), and were not successful in the bid. However, there were things that they liked. There is \$50 Million dollars on the table for Aboriginal Housing which the Society has submitted an application for, which was submitted by Cam Martin and team on June 15, 2016 We are proposing a combination of apartments and townhouses (12 townhouses and 30 apartments). There are basic drawings available for the proposed project and we could hear back as early August 2016.
- The Family Den is still our property and has been put on the table as equity for Central Green Project. We may get to keep the property and BC housing would like us to keep it, but according to the rules for the RFP for Central Green, we had to put up equity. But, with interest rates being low, and costs are running under budget, we have the potential of keeping it.
- We also have some additions to our Outreach contracts and we now have four outreach workers on staff who work with the homeless and families that are looking for homes. The new affordable housing project is coming at a good time to help those in need.
- Funds and agreements for Core Funding have been late this year, but we will be getting contract and funds within the next week or two, but is only one-year funding, not multi-year funding.

Motion #5:

To approve the Executive Director's report as given.

Moved by: Ann Bell; seconded by: Maurice Malinaff; all in favour; motion carried.

7. Provincial Aboriginal Youth Council (PAYC)

Kyle Tutt was sent by Edna Terbasket to represent the Ki-Low-Na Friendship Society at the Elder and Youth Gathering last year, and Kyle's name was added to the election for PAYC and he has been a member for the past year. There is an age restriction, and he has the possibility to be on the committee for the next 3-4 years.

Kyle was requesting a letter of support, which was needed for him to continue his involvement on the council. As a council member, he had been able to attend B.C. Association of Aboriginal Friendship Centres board meetings, National Association meetings and he stated that it had been a great learning experience and that it had also helped him reduce his shyness. Kyle shared that the group was great and that he had been able to sit and vote at board meetings as a member and be a voice and connection for youth.

There is an engagement process for the youth and communicate thru different means to help have a voice and been going to the board meeting and to different cities within B.C. Has been a



part of Gathering Our Voices (GOV); this is a big event for youth and PAYC has had an advisory role in the planning of GOV for the last two years.

Participated in other advisory committee's activities in helping with five major projects to help support not-for -profits and support contractors and adjudication process for three days, which was reviewing proposals and scoring them with 12 people other people. Kyle was not involved with reviewing the KFS proposals as it would have been a conflict of interest.

Motion #6:

To accept Kyle Tutt's verbal PAYC report.

Moved by: Allan Blanes; seconded by: Dinah Littlechief; all in favour; motion carried.

8. New Business:

Allan Blanes has a handout on Human Rights (provided handouts to the members and staff). Would like to get more awareness and create and develop an education program and would like to get this formalized and a universal declaration. If there any other ideas or suggestions please contact him by email which is on the top of the handout. Edna Terbasket thanked him for the information and something to think about and let us process.

9. Nominations for Executive Board Positions

Dinah Littlechief, Jean-Anne Copley, and Robin Dods (Robin Dods was not present, but willing to let her name stand) had completed two-year terms. There were three board member positions up for election that required nominations.

Call for Nominations:

Dinah Littlechief nominated Robin Dods – seconded by Ann Bell.

Jean-Anne Copley nominated Dinah Littlechief – seconded by Allan Blanes.

Ann Bell nominated Jean-Anne Copley – seconded by Dinah Littlechief.

Additional Position to Fill:

Karen Vircavs resigned from her two-year position, so there was another board position to fill.

Ann Bell nominated Jessie Nyberg o finish Karen Vircavs's term (2015-2017).

Call for final nominations was called three times. Nominations were then closed.

Motion #7:

To close the nominations for the three board positions, and that all three nominations be accepted my acclamation for a two-year term, starting June 2016. Additionally, Jessie Nyberg to replace Karen Vircavs for the remainder of her term (2015-2017).

Moved by: Allan Blanes; seconded by: Pat Paul; all in favour; motion carried.

10. Closing Prayer: Pat Paul

Meeting adjourned at 7:18 pm.





Ki-Low-Na Friendship Society

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