


Considering the Future: President, Mary Teegee

The focus of BC Aboriginal Child Care Society (BCACCS), during the past year, was to support First Nations and Aboriginal communities across the province through advocacy, training, direct service, and research in early learning and child care (ELCC). To that end, we made an effort to strengthen our research partnerships, further document the impact of existing policy and programs, and analyze gaps in data and research.

While it is too early to celebrate, there are promising movements being made at the federal and provincial levels of government. Canadian investment in early childhood and in young Indigenous children is being observed with cautious optimism. Notable developments strengthening Indigenous rights and presence in Canada like the Truth and Reconciliation of Canada's Calls to Action and the ruling of the Canadian Human Rights Tribunal that found the Canadian government is racially discriminating against 163,000 First Nations children and their families by providing flawed and inequitable child welfare services and failing to implement Jordan's Principle to ensure equitable access to government services available to other children whisper of better days to come.

True, we are not there yet. Compounded losses of our languages, lands, ability to govern in our traditional ways, familial ties, and community social systems have created deep and lasting physical, emotional and spiritual damage on our peoples. Yet, there is a sense that the "tide is turning" and through it all we now emerge with new strengths and hope. In this spirit of renewal, if we continue to collaborate, we will help ensure all Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal children get equal access to a best start in life.



In order to increase our ability to collaborate, provide a stage for meaningful exchanges, and deliver greater resources to the ELCC community BCACCS continues to function as a Centre of Excellence. Program evaluation remains an essential component of continuous quality improvement and BC early childhood education "stakeholders" are frequently requested to be part of the design and delivery of training and resources.

The staff and board members express their gratitude to all the people and organizations that have supported and collaborated with

us over the year. We look forward to continuing our relationships and investing our energies in the future of our children together.

2016 marks the 20th year that BCACCS has been in existence. As we approach twenty years of service we celebrate the growth of ELCC in our communities and the hard work and commitment of those who dedicate their efforts to quality programming for young Aboriginal children on a daily basis. As the year unfolds we will share stories, photos, videos, quotes, and knowledge collected over the years. We welcome you to celebrate this milestone with us.

Our Funders / Giving Thanks

First Nations Health Authority for their financial support of our 18th annual training conference, November 2015

Ministry of Children and Family Development, Child Care Branch, for funding the BC Aboriginal Child Care Resource and Referral

National Collaborating Centre on Aboriginal Health (NCCA), for support of our 18th annual conference, November 2015

Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC), for funding the operations of Eagles Nest and Singing Frog Aboriginal Head Start Preschools in East Vancouver, and the Connections: A Strength-Based, Family-Centred Approach to Assessment Training Pilot, Eagle's Nest AHS Preschool Outreach Program

Provincial Health Services Authority (PHSA), for funding a research report on Increasing Indigenous Children's Access to Traditional Foods in Early Childhood Programs

United Way of Lower Mainland and HRJ Consulting for funding the Researcher & Policy Analyst Position



Who We Are

BC Aboriginal Child Care Society (BCACCS) was established in 1996 to help BC First Nations establish Aboriginal early childhood development and care (AECDC) programs and services which meet the needs of First Nations children and families, on-reserve and off-reserve. We are committed to ensuring that communities are able to meet standards of care through the offering of high quality AECDC programs and services that are culturally and linguistically valid, as well as affordable, accessible and holistic. It is through this commitment that BCACCS has developed a variety of culturally-based resources and training workshops, as well as considerable policy expertise and research experience in the field of AECDC.

VITAL SIGNS: Statistical Summary of Program Activities 2015-2016

- 23,537** Hits on the BCACCS website
 - 1,372** Facebook Likes
 - 266** Delegates attended the 18th Annual BCACCS Training Conference
 - 4** Caring for Our Children newsletters published
 - 4,000** Caring for Our Children newsletters distributed throughout 600 communities and programs
 - 52** E-newsletters circulated weekly to more than 330 contacts
 - 19** Special e-bulletins published
 - 1,496** Books, periodicals and videos in the BCACCS library
 - 51** Communities that accessed the BCACCS library and ECE curriculum boxes
 - 26** Communities visited by BCACCS Child Care Advisors
 - 316** Participants in the Moe the Mouse Theme Box Workshops
 - 5,397** BCACCS staff telephone, email, and in person consults
- Representation of our Stakeholders across BC from 2015 conference training:
18% Coastal **17%** Island **26%** Northern **23%** Interior **12%** Fraser **4%** Provincial

Report to the Community 2015-2016 BC Aboriginal Child Care Society (BCACCS)

"Nurturing Excellence in Aboriginal Early Childhood Development and Care since 1996"

Our Mission

We are committed to nurturing excellence through community outreach, education, training, research and advocacy, to ensure every Aboriginal child in BC has access to spiritually enriching, culturally relevant, high quality early childhood development and care services.

We believe in supporting communities, programs and services to ensure every Aboriginal child has a healthy, happy start in life so they thrive within their families, communities and nations.

Because we value children, we work with all our partners to ensure that Aboriginal early childhood development and care (AECDC) services across the province are delivered with the highest quality of current and promising practice.



**BC Aboriginal
Child Care Society**

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Highlights of the Year

BCACCS in Action 2015-2016



Resource Creation and Research

Finding Community Voices

BCACCS engages in research and policy analysis. For the last year we have had a dedicated researcher collecting documentation interviews that explore commitment to Indigenous early childhood care, development and education.

We hope the various forms of documentation, literature reviews, data analysis and collection, community engagement and project/program evaluations will help to better advocate for and inform necessary supports for early childhood development and care for Indigenous children and families.

We look forward to sharing our findings and learning more about their contributions to the vitality of First Nation communities in BC.

Nourishing our Children's Bodies and Spirits

BCACCS supported the Provincial Health Services Authority in creating a report entitled, *Increasing Indigenous Children's Access to Traditional Foods in Early Childhood Programs*.

Traditional Indigenous foods are more than part of a healthy diet; they have spiritual value and can strengthen the cultural identity of Indigenous peoples and communities. However, some childcare settings find that the current food regulatory system excludes the type, frequency and/or location of where traditional foods can be served. It appears that in this case, champions are often the key to including traditional foods in early childhood programs.

This project builds on research conducted in 2012 by BCACCS and supports the recommendation of the First Nations and Aboriginal Peoples action team and the Food Access and Availability action team, as part of the Ministry of Health's Provincial Healthy Eating Strategy development, recommendations to increase access to safe, healthy, foods including traditional foods. This project also aligns with the work of the provincial Early Years Resource: Healthy Eating and Physical Activity project and the PHSA's Population and Public Health and BC Centre for Disease Control work to increase collaboration between food security and food safety sectors at the local, regional and provincial levels. The finished report is expected to be published by fall 2016.

Honouring Early Childhood Champions

Each year BCACCS is honoured to express the appreciation we have for the people who are dedicated to helping our youngest generation thrive. These special individuals and groups are making positive and lasting

contributions to the field of Aboriginal early childhood development, education and care.

Our Perry Shawana award is presented each year to an individual who has contributed to and advanced the notion of the need for safe, nurturing and high quality child care and early learning services for BC's Aboriginal children. The 2015 winner was Hereditary Chief Maureen Chapman.

We also present Child Care Recognition Awards at our annual conference to honour exceptional role models working in the Aboriginal early childhood education field throughout BC. Individuals are nominated by colleagues. 2015 recipients were, Sharlene Wilson, Trena Haller, Tasha Sam, and Flo Lewis.

More information about all the winners can be found on our website.

Updates to the BCACCS Resource Centre

The library staff at the BCACCS Resource Centre had another busy year! We updated our collection with new Aboriginal children's books, teaching resources, and academic works.

The library catalogue indexing frame was restructured to not only serve as a finding aid to our physical collection, but also to access journal articles, policy papers, and other academic literature. By the end of this year, the catalogue will provide access to 1,496 physical and online resources.

The AECDC Knowledge Portal currently consists of eight subject guides with over 700 links to practical online tools and resources on topics such as Leadership & Management, BCACCS Publications, and Catalogue Search Tips. Since April 2015, the Knowledge Portal has received over seven thousand views!

Community Outreach, Education, and Support



Planting Seeds

This year the From Seed to Cedar Awareness Campaign focused on recognizing the work of dedicated Early Childhood Educators (ECEs) by advocating for a fair wage and raising awareness about the crucial role of quality Aboriginal Early Childhood Development and Care (AECDC) programs in our communities.

The online community showed their support

by sharing messages with #SeedtoCedar and signing the declaration. AECDC programs play a central role in creating the conditions that nurture the potential of our children and unlock the spirit of our communities. Don't forget to follow the campaign. Visit www.seedtocedar.com and follow @seedtocedar.

Striving for Quality

In partnership with the First Nations Health Authority; 265 delegates from more than 200 programs throughout the province participated in the BCACCS' 18th annual provincial training conference in November 2015. The theme - *Footsteps toward a Brighter Future: Encouraging Healthy Living Practices* - demonstrated that we can help strengthen a child's well-being and give them a strong foundation in life through language, storytelling, outdoor activities, and sharing traditions through play, environment, activities, and curriculum.

Jeri Sparrow, Musqueam Elder, welcomed delegates and our opening keynote speaker, Dr. Art Hister motivated us with laughter. Highlights included a moving closing presentation by Melanie Mark and a grounding closing circle led by MC Alex Nelson.

The three day conference included 45 workshops and eight pre-conference full day

workshops on topics like creating supportive learning environments, health, Moe the Mouse®, funding, sleep practices, strengthening parent and child attachment relationships, and increasing communication skills.

Making Connections

BCACCS staff and board actively build relationships, share knowledge, and engage with partners.

Collaborations occurred with: First Nations Health Authority (FNHA), Public Health Services Agency (PHSA), National Collaborating Centre for Aboriginal Health (NCCA), Canadian Child Care Federation (CCCF), Child Care Human Resources Sector Council (CCHRSC), Early Childhood Educators of BC (ECEBC), United Way of Vancouver Lower Mainland, First Nations Early Childhood Development Council (FNECDC), First Call Coalition, Success by 6, and the Association for Childhood Education International (ACEI) in order to provide training opportunities and share and develop resources.

Staff also supported the learning community by providing informational workshops at the University of Victoria, Capilano University, Kwantlen University, Vancouver Island University, University of Northern BC, and Northern Lights College.

Our People / Staff & Board

BCACCS Staff

- Karen Isaac, Executive Director
- Mary Burgaretta, ACCRR Program Manager / Aboriginal Child Care Advisor
- Kirsten Bevelander, Child Care Advisor
- Graham Giles, Researcher & Policy Analyst
- Fionn Yaxley, Communications Officer
- Scott (Iax-Iya7) Nahanee, Accounts Payable / Administration
- Eugene Harry (XiQulem), Cultural Advisor
- Kate Longley, Librarian
- Pepper Brewster, ECE/Library Assistant
- Leona Antoine, Program Coordinator, Singing Frog AHS Preschool
- Dawn Westlands, Program Coordinator, Eagle's Nest AHS Preschool



BCACCS Board

- Mary Teegee, President
- Executive Director, Carrier Sekani Family Services
- Member, Minister's Advisory Council on Aboriginal Women
- Chair of the Highway of Tears Governing Body
- Maurice Squires, Vice-President
- Indigenous Child and Family Service Consultant
- Al Lawrence, Treasurer / Secretary
- Owner/Operator Kidz Co
- Sue Sterling-Bur, Director
- Instructor, Nicola Valley Institute of Technology
- Owner, Godey Creek Consulting
- Robert Lagasse, Director
- Chief Executive Officer, Sts'ails Development Corporation
- Warner Adam, Director
- Chief Executive Officer, Carrier Sekani Family Services
- Deputy Chair, First Nations Health Council
- Member, National Collaboration Center for Aboriginal Health
- William Yoachim, Director
- Elected to City of Nanaimo Mayor and Council
- Executive Director of Kwumut Lelum Child and Family Services
- Dr. Margo Greenwood, Director
- Academic Lead, National Collaborating Centre for Aboriginal Health

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT | BC ABORIGINAL CHILD CARE SOCIETY | Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of B.C. Aboriginal Child Care Society, which comprise the statement of financial position as at March 31, 2016, and the statement of operations and changes in fund balances and the statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements
Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations, and for such internal control as Management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditors' Responsibility
Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement. An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected

depend on the auditors' judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditors consider internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained in our audit is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Opinion
In our opinion, these financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of B.C. Aboriginal Child Care Society as at March 31, 2016, and its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

REID HURST NAGY INC. CHARTERED PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTANTS
RICHMOND, B.C. SEPTEMBER 21, 2016

Financials

Statement of Operations and Changes in Fund Balances for the year ended March 31, 2016

	2016 Operations Budget (Unaudited)	2016 Operations Actual	2016 Capital Actual	2016 Total	2015 Total
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
REVENUE					
Registration	45,000	77,268	-	77,268	44,490
Workshop	5,000	21,044	-	21,044	14,692
Membership	1,000	3,230	-	3,230	4,290
Rental	12,000	13,000	-	13,000	3,000
Moe the mouse	23,000	23,142	-	23,142	14,929
Public Health Agency of Canada	664,400	668,793	-	668,793	738,680
First Nations Health Authority	200,000	201,000	-	201,000	200,000
National Collaborating Centre for Aboriginal Health	10,000	2,500	-	2,500	10,000
Province of BC (MCFD)	332,640	332,640	-	332,640	430,000
Province of BC (CCOF)	-	11,248	-	11,248	17,615
Provincial Health Services Authority	-	39,538	-	39,538	-
Province of BC (MCFD-Minor Capital)	-	-	-	-	2,000
United Way of Vancouver Lower Mainland	50,000	37,500	-	37,500	-
Vancouver Native Health Society (VNHS)	-	15,860	-	15,860	18,937
ECE Scholarship	-	2,456	-	2,456	3,040
Donations	2,000	11,551	-	11,551	33,188
Fundraising	1,000	-	-	-	-
Anonymous donor	53,700	51,900	-	51,900	-
Aboriginal Head Start Association of BC	-	42,005	-	42,005	375
Handling fees	71,128	71,573	-	71,573	86,565
Miscellaneous	-	46,569	-	46,569	35,580
Recovery of prior year surplus	-	(9,169)	-	(9,169)	-
	1,470,868	1,663,648	-	1,663,648	1,657,381
EXPENDITURES					
Wages	864,588	863,407	-	863,407	790,315
Depreciation	-	-	16,979	16,979	23,127
Rent	78,837	95,569	-	95,569	99,105
Utilities	12,350	3,664	-	3,664	3,978
Renovations	-	2,096	-	2,096	5,342
Alarm	300	1,607	-	1,607	1,205
Insurance	6,206	14,283	-	14,283	14,844
Property taxes	-	2,894	-	2,894	2,958
Office supplies	2,588	5,588	-	5,588	5,618
Photocopying and printing	10,228	15,880	-	15,880	9,901
Postage and courier	3,600	4,473	-	4,473	4,264
Telephone	3,547	9,112	-	9,112	9,686
Internet and website	12,692	21,087	-	21,087	22,707
Office equipment and upgrades	2,884	304	-	304	796
Meeting food	-	20	-	20	608
Staff recruitment and criminal record checks	-	349	-	349	476
Staff training	7,000	7,551	-	7,551	8,701
Staff appreciation	1,000	1,976	-	1,976	1,383
Promotion	-	1,549	-	1,549	-
Legal	-	2,530	-	2,530	110
Audit	7,000	10,706	-	10,706	10,595
Accounting	22,000	22,000	-	22,000	22,000
Payroll process	500	1,123	-	1,123	1,038
Publications	4,000	3,118	-	3,118	5,126
Consultant	21,500	88,051	-	88,051	135,576
Board travel and meetings	-	8,920	-	8,920	9,529
Elders honoraria	19,900	20,658	-	20,658	11,950
Fuel and mileage	250	9,626	-	9,626	9,272
Food and Nutrition	75,448	61,045	-	61,045	62,158
Meals and Misc. (FNHA delegate)	24,750	10,015	-	10,015	-
Program material and trip tickets	33,127	46,556	-	46,556	39,758
Registration fees (FNHA)	-	45,000	-	45,000	33,950
Training	5,700	3,566	-	3,566	5,433
Education allowance	1,500	858	-	858	10,356
Other program expenses	2,500	6,370	-	6,370	6,915
Meeting rooms	3,500	10,588	-	10,588	6,171
Travel and trip fees	166,088	142,813	-	142,813	128,161
Evaluation	1,500	1,500	-	1,500	1,538
Janitorial supplies	-	529	-	529	4,618
Equipment	23,212	19,906	-	19,906	30,641
Renovations	-	-	-	-	80,732
Handling fees	71,124	71,573	-	71,573	86,565
Dues and fees	250	1,825	-	1,825	2,064
Bank charges	1,247	806	-	806	564
Miscellaneous	-	232	-	232	276
	1,491,116	1,641,323	16,979	1,658,302	1,710,110
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUE OVER EXPENDITURES	(20,248)	22,324	(16,979)	5,345	(52,729)
Fund balance, beginning of the year	-	224,152	74,850	299,002	351,731
Capital additions paid from the Operations Funds	-	(32,489)	32,489	-	-
Fund balance, end of the year	-	213,987	90,360	304,347	299,002

Statement of Financial Position March 31, 2016

	2016 Operations	2016 Capital	2016 Total	2015 Total
	\$	\$	\$	\$
ASSETS				
Cash	230,717	-	230,717	75,495
Investment	5,000	-	5,000	5,000
Accounts receivable	36,389	-	36,389	181,479
Due from employees	6,951	-	6,951	5,578
GST Receivable	8,767	-	8,767	11,173
Prepaid expenses	21,060	-	21,060	25,284
	308,884	-	308,884	304,009
TANGIBLE CAPITAL				
	-	90,360	90,360	74,850
	308,884	90,360	399,244	378,859
LIABILITIES				
CURRENT				
Accounts payable & accrued liabilities	42,820	-	42,820	45,771
Vacation payable	38,577	-	38,577	31,378
Unearned revenue	12,500	-	12,500	-
Donation proceeds payable	-	-	-	1,708
Refundable deposit	1,000	-	1,000	1,000
	94,897	-	94,897	79,857

FUND BALANCES

Unrestricted	213,987	-	213,987	224,152
Invested in capital assets	-	90,360	90,360	74,850
	213,987	90,360	304,347	299,002
	308,884	90,360	399,244	378,859

Statement of Cash Flows For the Year Ended March 31, 2016

	2016	2015
	\$	\$
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	5,345	(52,729)
Adjustments for Depreciation	16,979	23,126
	22,324	(29,603)
Change in non-cash working capital items	-	-
Decrease (increase) in non-cash current assets	150,347	(3,003)
Increase (decrease) in non-cash current liabilities	15,040	(51,464)
	187,711	(84,070)
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Tangible capital assets acquired	(32,489)	(11,029)
NET INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH	155,222	(95,099)
CASH, BEGINNING OF THE YEAR	80,495	175,594
CASH, END OF THE YEAR	235,717	80,495

Represented by:

Cash	230,717	75,495
Investment	5,000	5,000
	235,717	80,495

