

*“Nurturing Excellence in Aboriginal  
Early Childhood Development and  
Care since 1996”*



**BC ABORIGINAL CHILD CARE  
SOCIETY (BCACCS)  
ANNUAL REPORT**

**2016 - 2017**



BC **Aboriginal**  
**ChildCare** Society

# 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 (AECD) 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 AECD 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 AECD.

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 (AECD) services across the province are delivered with the highest quality of current and promising practice.



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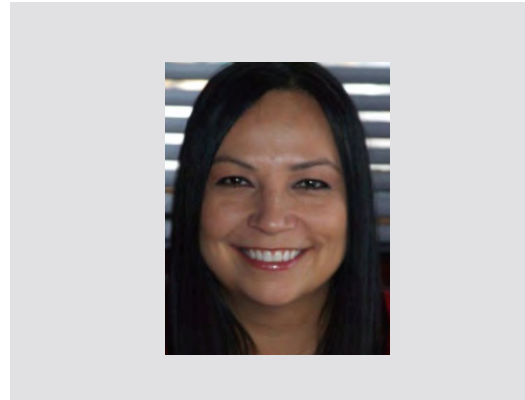
# Working Together to Create Sustained Change

Over the last 20 years it has become clear that the needs of Indigenous children and families are not those of mainstream. Harms produced by colonization continue to plague communities—currently more Indigenous children than during the 60s scoop are in state care. However, there are ways to support Indigenous families that revitalize culture. Years of research show that high quality, culturally relevant early childhood development programs have the power to transform the lives of children, families, and communities. Now, 20 years later, the federal government acknowledges that this requires an Indigenous early learning and child care framework (ELCC) that focuses on the inclusion of traditional responsibilities.

This year, at BCACCS, has been full of change and action and there is a real sense that transformation is possible. As one of the regional First Nations members of the National First Nations ELCC Working Group, we have been involved in supporting the co-development of a National Indigenous ELCC framework with the Assembly of First Nations and the government of Canada.

While the framework itself makes an effort to provide support for the distinct cultures and needs of First Nations, Inuit, and Métis children, families, communities and Nations it will also help make permanent an Indigenous role in decision-making where ELCC funding, policy and governance are concerned. Today, working together can no longer mean a token Indigenous presence. In order for governance and policy to reflect Indigenous agendas and knowledge and truly support the needs of children, families, and communities it is essential that together we move forward in a way that recognizes and realizes Indigenous self-determination.

We recognize that the relationships we build today will help nurture the well-being and future of our children. The staff and board members thank the funders and individuals, as well as organizations who have collaborated with BCACCS. Without you, the work to help ensure that children are culturally connected and spiritually rooted in the traditional language and histories of their families, communities and Nations, could not continue.




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***This year, there is a real sense that transformation is possible.***

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President, Mary Teegee

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mary Teegee".



### Supporting an Indigenous Early Learning and Child Care Framework.

BCACCS believes the development of a national framework for Indigenous early learning and child care (IELCC) will help make the Indigenous decision-making role permanent where funding, policy and governance are concerned on matters that effect Indigenous children, families, and communities.

We are honoured to be one of the regional First Nations members of a National IELCC Working Group and be involved in supporting the co-development of a Framework with the Assembly of First Nations and the government of Canada that provides for support of the distinct cultures and needs of First Nations, Inuit, and Métis children, families, communities and Nations.

### Sharing Community Voices.

BCACCS engages in research and policy analysis. Our researcher has been busy documenting and exploring what partners and communities have found they need in order to participate in and commitment to Indigenous early childhood care, development and education.

Our hope is that the data analysis and collection, community engagement, and project/program evaluations will help BCACCS better advocate for and create necessary supports for early childhood development and care for Indigenous children and families. Findings contribute to the vitality of First Nation communities in BC.

### Nourishing our Children's Learning.

With the support of Provincial Health Services Authority BCACCS continues to build on research conducted in 2012. For Indigenous children in early childhood settings access to traditional foods can be limited by a number of factors, resulting in levels of access that differ greatly across the province. The final report *Increasing Indigenous Children's Access to Traditional Foods in Early Childhood Programs* and executive summary are now available online.

20 Amazing Years.

In 2016 BCACCS celebrated year 20; two decades of quality and innovation (1996 – 2016) with a special witnessing ceremony. Chef Andrew George and the executive chef of the Vancouver Sheraton Airport Hotel worked collaboratively to create celebration dishes to honour the occasion. A mixture of traditional and contemporary music and dance—m’GIRL, Ghostkeeper Entertainment, and the Kwhlii Gibaygum Nisga’a Dance group—were featured at the event. #BCACCScelebrates20 photos can be found on Flickr.

Honouring Early Childhood Champions.

These special individuals and groups are making positive and lasting contributions to the field of Aboriginal early childhood development, education and care. Each year BCACCS is honoured to express our appreciation for the people who are dedicated to helping the youngest generation thrive.

Each year, the Perry Shawana award is presented 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 2016 winner was Lenora Joe and the staff at Mem7iman Child Development Program.

We also present the 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. 2016 recipients were Jackie Casey, Jennifer Cross, Roseanne George, Vanessa Cardinal, and Vanessa Hickman.



BCACCS Resource Centre Updates.

Library staff continued to update the collection with new Aboriginal children’s books, teaching resources and academic works. Access to journal articles, policy papers, and other academic literature is easier than ever. The catalogue provides access to 1617 physical and online resources.

The AECDC Knowledge Portal currently consists of nine subject guides with over 822 links to practical online tools and resources on topics such as Research & Policy, Special Needs, and Literacy & Language Development. Since April 2016, the Knowledge Portal has received over 832 views!

### Out in Community.

This year BCACCS staff along with Singing Frog and Eagle's Nest Aboriginal Head Start preschools shared information about BCACCS at several tables and took part in some community events. Maybe you saw us in the Aboriginal Day walk to Trout Lake or the New Westminster Aboriginal Day celebration, or Fair in the Square. We visited with people in the community and shared information about BCACCS resources and training workshops and built support for our From Seed to Cedar awareness campaign.

### Sharing Strength and Knowledge.

In partnership with the First Nations Health Authority, 267 delegates from more than 200 programs throughout the province participated in the BCACCS' 19<sup>th</sup> annual provincial training conference in November 2016. The theme "*Gathering Strength and Nurturing Growth: Celebrating 20 Years of Quality and Innovation*" demonstrated that we can support a child's well-being and help build a strong foundation in life by nurturing their interest in language, storytelling, outdoor activities, and sharing traditions.

Elder Larry Grant from the Musqueam welcomed delegates. Our opening keynote speaker, Dr. Marie Wilson reminded us about the importance of Indigenous early childhood education. Highlights included a stirring closing presentation by Dr. Lee Brown and a grounding closing circle led by MC Alex Nelson and BCACCS cultural advisor Eugene Harry (XiQuelem).



### Making Connections.

BCACCS staff and board actively build relationships, share knowledge, and engage with partners. Staff supported the learning community by providing informational workshops at the University of Victoria, Capilano University, Kwantlen University, and Vancouver Island University.

Collaborations occurred with: First Nations Health Authority (FNHA), Public Health Services Agency (PHSA), National Collaborating Centre for Aboriginal Health (NCCA), First Nations Education Steering Committee (FNESC), Canadian Child Care Federation (CCCF), Early Childhood Educators of BC (ECEBC), United Way of Vancouver Lower Mainland, The City of Vancouver, First Call Coalition, Success by 6, and the Musqueam First Nation in order to provide training opportunities and share and develop resources.

## *Our People*

### *Staff*

Karen Isaac, *Executive Director*

Mary Burgaretta, *ACCRR Program Manager / Aboriginal Child Care Advisor*

Graham Giles, *Research and Policy Analyst*

Kirsten Bevelander, *Child Care Advisor*

Fionn Yaxley, *Communications Officer*

Scott (lax-lyá7) Nahanee, *Accounts Payable / Administration*

Eugene Harry, (XiQulem), *Cultural Advisor*

Pepper Brewster, *Library Assistant / ECE*

Leona Antoine, *Program Coordinator, Singing Frog Preschool*

Dawn Westland, *Program Coordinator, Eagle's Nest Preschool*

Mary Teegee, *President*  
Executive Director of Child & Family Services, Carrier Sekani Family Services

Maurice Squires, *Vice-President*  
Director of Aboriginal Policy and Practice with the Aboriginal Services Branch, MCFD

Al Lawrence, *Treasurer / Secretary*  
Owner/Operator Kidz Co

Sue Sterling, *Director*  
Consultant & Instructor

Robert Lagassé (Xeylsqoyeplexw), *Director*  
Chief Executive Officer, Sts'ailes Development Corporation

Warner Adam, *Director*  
Chief Executive Officer, Carrier Sekani Family Services

Dr. Margo Greenwood, *Director*  
Academic Lead National Collaborating Centre for Aboriginal Health

### *Board*



# Vital Signs

Statistical Summary of Program Activities 2016-2017

23,248

Website hits

31

Communities visited by Advisors

1,499

Facebook likes

4,949

Consults

267

Conference attendees

36

E-bulletins sent

1,617

Resources in the library

132

Moe the Mouse® Participants

6,395

Users access the library

4 Newsletters distributed

53 E-news shared



Representation of our Stakeholders across BC from 2016 conference training

18.81% COASTAL 17.82% ISLAND 28.71% NORTHERN 23.76% INTERIOR 10.89% FRASER 0.01% OTHER



# Our Funders / Giving Thanks



## Many thanks to our funders.

First Nations Health Authority for their financial support of our 19<sup>th</sup> annual provincial training conference, November 2016

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

Prince Rupert Port Authority and Vancouver Airport Sheraton Hotel, for support of our 20th year celebration event, November 2016

Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC), for funding the operations of Eagles Nest and Singing Frog Aboriginal Head Start Preschools in East Vancouver

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

City of Vancouver for supporting us in establishing the Aboriginal Early Years Network

HRJ Consulting for funding the Researcher and Policy Analyst Position

Assembly of First Nations for their support of the Indigenous Early Learning and Child Care engagement

**Without donations we could not do the work we do. We thank the funders, private donors, and volunteers that support BCACCS to ensure that Indigenous focused scholarships, training, and resources are available for people in the early learning field.**

# Financials

## STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES For the year ended March 31, 2017

	Operations B u d g e t 2 0 1 7 (Unaudited)	Operations Actual 2017	Capital Actual 2017	Total 2017	Total 2016
<b>REVENUES</b>					
Registration	55,000	74,034	-	74,034	77,268
Workshop	15,00	23,749	-	23,749	21,044
Membership	2,500	3,725	-	3,725	3,230
Rental	18,000	15,753	-	15,753	13,000
National Indian Brotherhood	-	29,284	-	29,284	-
Moe the Mouse	23,500	22,715	-	22,715	23,142
Public Health Agency of Canada	692,184	660,746	-	660,746	668,793
First Nations Health Authority	200,000	200,000	-	200,000	201,000
City of Vancouver	40,000	40,000	-	40,000	-
National Collaborating Centre for Aboriginal Health	-	-	-	-	2,500
Province of BC (MCFD)	332,640	340,907	-	340,907	332,640
Province of BC (CCOF)	-	10,488	-	10,488	11,248
Provincial Health Services Authority	-	5,500	-	5,500	39,538
United Way of Vancouver Lower Mainland	-	12,500	-	12,500	37,500
Vancouver Native Health Society (VNHS)	-	3,991	-	3,991	15,860
ECE Scholarship	-	-	-	-	2,456
Donations	8,500	7,495	-	7,495	11,551
Fundraising	6,200	826	-	826	-
Anonymous donor	-	51,900	-	51,900	51,900
Aboriginal Head Start Association of BC	-	27,600	-	27,600	42,005
Handling Fees	72,000	85,953	-	85,953	71,573
Training	2,000	-	-	-	-
Miscellaneous	-	64,127	-	64,127	45,569
Recovery of prior year surplus	-	-	-	-	(9,169)
	1,467,524	1,681,023	-	1,681,023	1,663,648

# Financials

cont'd STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES  
For the year ended March 31, 2017

	Operations Budget 2017 (Unaudited)	Operations Actual 2017	Capital Actual 2017	Total 2017	Total 2016
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>					
Wages	794,645	829,652	-	829,652	863,407
Depreciation	-	-	13,742	13,742	16,979
Rent	89,037	98,759	-	98,759	95,569
Utilities	12,350	6,975	-	6,975	3,664
Renovations	7,300	2,296	-	2,296	2,096
Alam	300	1,476	-	1,476	1,607
Insurance	7,206	14,421	-	14,421	14,283
Property taxes	-	2,668	-	2,668	2,894
Office supplies	4,538	4,636	-	4,636	5,588
Photocopying and printing	11,528	20,047	-	20,047	15,880
Postage and courier	2,800	2,634	-	2,634	4,473
Telephone	4,447	9,870	-	9,870	9,112
Internet and website	6,500	21,002	-	21,002	21,087
Office equipment and upgrades	750	-	-	-	304
Meeting food	-	6,931	-	6,931	20
Staff recruitment and criminal checks	-	1,228	-	1,228	349
Staff training	7,750	6,533	-	6,533	7,551
Staff appreciation	1,000	2,338	-	2,338	1,976
Promotion	-	83	-	83	1,549
Legal	1,500	1,627	-	1,627	2,530
Audit	7,304	10,805	-	10,805	10,706
Accounting	21,196	22,000	-	22,000	22,000
Payroll process	900	1,185	-	1,185	1,123
Publications	4,400	2,721	-	2,721	3,118
Consultant	39,500	103,204	-	103,204	88,051
Board travel and meetings	-	7,411	-	7,411	8,920
Elders honoraria	18,322	18,343	-	18,343	20,658
Fuel and mileage	-	3,546	-	3,546	9,626
Food and nutrition	23,375	14,527	-	14,527	12,998
Meals and Misc. (FNHA delegate)	23,000	12,710	-	12,710	10,015
Program material and trip tickets	26,442	44,136	-	44,136	46,556
Registration fees	1,000	50,500	-	50,500	45,000
Training	16,325	860	-	860	3,566
Education allowance	1,500	2,077	-	2,077	858
Other program expenses	7,200	10,746	-	10,746	6,370
Meeting rooms and catering	57,500	53,988	-	53,988	58,635
Travel and trip fees	67,961	50,322	-	50,322	52,152
Travel-FNHA delegates	97,000	85,500	-	85,500	90,662
Evaluation	2,500	-	-	-	1,500
Janitorial Supplies	-	511	-	511	529
Equipment	16,924	25,710	-	25,710	19,906
Handling fees	77,874	85,953	-	85,953	71,573
Dues and fees	500	1,906	-	1,906	1,825
Bank charges	900	1,230	-	1,230	806
Miscellaneous	4,250	621	-	621	232
	1,467,524	1,643,688	13,742	1,657,430	1,658,303
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES	-	37,355	(13,742)	23,593	5,345
Fund balance, beginning of the year		213,987	90,360	304,347	299,002
Capital additions paid from Operations Funds		(1,330)	1,330	-	-
Fnd balance, end of year		249,992	77,948	327,940	304,347

# Financials

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION  
March 31, 2017

	Operations 2017	Capital 2017	Total 2017	Total 2016
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>				
Cash	23,815	-	53,815	230,717
Investment <sup>4</sup>	5,772	-	5,772	5,000
Accounts receivable	231,407	-	231,407	36,389
Due from employees <sup>9</sup>	4,485	-	4,485	6,951
GST Receivable	15,454	-	15,454	8,767
Prepaid expenses	14,405	-	14,405	21,060
	325,338	-	325,338	308,884
<b>TANGIBLE CAPITAL<sup>5</sup></b>	-	77,948	77,948	90,360
	325,338	77,948	403,286	399,244
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>				
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	37,275	-	37,275	42,820
Vacation payable	31,071	-	31,071	38,577
Unearned revenue	6,000	-	6,000	12,500
Refundable deposit	1,000	-	1,000	1,000
	75,346	-	75,346	94,897
<b>FUND BALANCES</b>				
<b>UNRESTRICTED</b>	249,992	-	249,992	213,987
<b>INVESTED IN TANGIBLE CAPITAL</b>	-	77,948	77,948	90,360
	249,992	77,948	327,940	304,347
	249,992	77,948	403,286	399,244

## INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT - TO THE MEMBERS, B.C. ABORIGINAL CHILD CARE SOCIETY

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, 2017, 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, 2017, 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. AUGUST 11, 2017





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