

## Looking Forward: President, Mary Teegee

The BC Aboriginal Child Care Society (BCACCS) collaborates with early years organizations in British Columbia (BC) to strengthen training, research, and resources and effectively advocate for Aboriginal early childhood development and care (AECDC).

We offer an assortment of training, services, and resources in order to support early childhood education professionals create and maintain quality programming, and find, use and share tools and evidence that will improve outcomes for Aboriginal children in BC.

Although there seems to be an unfortunate trend in having less data available for public scrutiny - which makes it more difficult to advocate regarding increased needs or policy changes - it highlights how vital the information gathering and research work that we do is for the sector.

Without quality data there remain holes in our understanding of how well Aboriginal children, families, and communities are doing. This gap in data reminds us how important it is to evaluate our organization in order to make sure we understand what kind of an impact we are having, how to invest in and where we can best support AECDC concerns.



As a Centre of Excellence it is important for BCACCS to ensure quality in the work we do. Program evaluation is an essential driver of continuous quality improvement, and BC early childhood education stakeholders are continually requested to be part of the design and delivery of training and resources.

The systematic evaluation of outcomes is being introduced into research, program, service, and resource creation.

It is encouraging that professionals, organizations, families, and communities are working together in ways they never have before. By collaborating with other organizations and sharing our knowledge and research we work hard to stay connected to the growing needs of the

Aboriginal early childhood education sector. These partnerships help illuminate existing gaps and needs to supporting the well-being of Aboriginal children and their families.

We are lucky that there is a current interest in early childhood education and that we have more much-deserved attention directed towards the AECDC sector, however without an increase in investment the potential for sustaining positive change has little chance to gain enough traction to create any fundamental possibility of "closing the gap" for Aboriginal children.

Thank you, from staff and board members, to all the people and organizations - the early childhood educators, sector professionals, policy makers, agencies, and a growing list of partners - that we have collaborated with to achieve our shared goals.

## Our Funders / Giving Thanks

First Nations Early Childhood Development Council (FNECDC) for their funding support of First Nations Licensing Project and AECE Occupational Standards Project

First Nations Health Authority for their financial support of our 17<sup>th</sup> annual training conference, November 2014

Ministry of Children and Family Development, Child Care Branch, for funding the BC Aboriginal Child Care Resource and Referral, including funding support for our Resource Centre and Library

National Collaborating Centre on Aboriginal Health (NCCA), for support of our 17<sup>th</sup> annual conference in November 2014

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, and roof renovations to Singing Frog AHS Preschool

United Way of Vancouver Lower Mainland, for their financial support of the ECD Public Policy Project, including production of *An Environmental Scan of Public Policy and Programs for young Aboriginal Children in BC: A Cold Wind Blows*

Central City Foundation, for funding repairs to the Singing Frog AHS Preschool



## 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 2014-15

- 21,756** Hits received by the BCACCS website
  - 1,064** Facebook Likes
  - 250** Delegates attended the 17<sup>th</sup> 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 250 contacts
  - 33** Special e-bulletins published
  - 1,362** Books, periodicals and videos in the BCACCS library
  - 41** Communities that accessed the BCACCS library and ECE curriculum boxes
  - 24** Communities visited by BCACCS Child Care Advisors
  - 146** Participants in the Moe the Mouse Theme Box Workshops
  - 3,858** BCACCS staff telephone and email consults
- Representation of our Stakeholders across BC:
- 21%** Coastal **21%** Island **20%** Northern **17%** Interior **6%** Fraser **15%** Provincial

## Report to the Community 2014-2015 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 2014-2015

### Resource Creation and Research

#### Support Quality Care with Fair Wages

The BC First Nations Early Childhood Educator Occupational Standards Report 2014 First Edition is complete. In July 2013, with the assistance of Linda McDonnell, BCACCS undertook a project for the First Nations Early Childhood Development Council (FNECDC) - Aboriginal Early Childhood Educator Occupational Standards with the primary intent to advance greater fairness and equity through wages commensurate with the roles and responsibilities of Aboriginal Early Childhood Educators (AECEs).



This culturally relevant occupational standards guide supports professional practice and informs both levels of practice for Aboriginal early childhood educators by sharing guidelines for appropriate and fair remuneration of ECEs.

#### Updates to the AECD Knowledge Portal

It was a busy year for the BCACCS Resource Centre! We updated our collection to include 40 new Aboriginal children's books, teaching resources and academic works.

The library catalogue was also restructured to not only serve as a finding aid to our physical collection, but also as an index of journal articles, policy papers, and other academic literature. By the end of this year, the catalogue was providing access to 1248 physical and online resources.

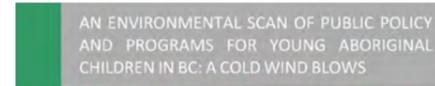
The AECD Knowledge Portal currently consists of seven subject guides with 688 links to practical online tools and resources on topics such as Funding Opportunities, Literacy & Language Development, Special Needs, Parenting & Child Rearing, and Health & Well-being. In the two months following its unveiling in January 2014, the Knowledge Portal received almost a thousand views!

#### No Shelter from the Wind

The 2014 Environmental Scan of Public Policy and Programs for young Aboriginal Children in BC: A Cold Wind Blows updates the 2007 BCACCS Environmental Scan: Winds of Change. The purpose of the Scan is, as in 2007, to describe, clarify, and put in political context the patchwork of federal and provincial Aboriginal early childhood development and care (Aboriginal ECDC) policies and programs specifically designed by the federal and BC provincial governments to close the "gap in life chances" between Aboriginal children and other children in BC.

With the decline of federal interest in ECD, the weak provincial commitment to effective Aboriginal ECD policy and programs, and the continuing high child and family poverty rates in BC the current policy environment for ensuring effective Aboriginal ECDC policy and programs is a chilly one.

This Scan is primarily intended to be a tool that will encourage debate about Aboriginal ECDC and be of planning assistance to First Nations, Métis, and Inuit communities in BC.



### Community Outreach, Education, and Support



#### Planting Seeds

This annual campaign coincides with Childcare Month in May. This year the From Seed to Cedar Awareness Campaign focus raised awareness about fair wages for early childhood educators.

The online community showed their support by signing the declaration and sharing the message, "With the right conditions the smallest seeds can become the tallest cedars". Aboriginal early childhood development and care (AECD) programs play a central role in creating the conditions that nurture the potential of our children and unlock the spirit of our communities. Keep in touch with us through the [www.seedtocedar.com](http://www.seedtocedar.com) website.

#### Sharing Tools

The study of training and retention issues in early childhood programs revealed an urgent need for professional development on the topic of human resource management.



With the support of First Nations Early Childhood Development Council (FNECDC)

BCACCS created an *Introduction to Human Resources Management in First Nations' Early Childhood Development and Care Programs* to assist First Nations employers of early childhood personnel as well as the program managers of on and off-reserve early childhood programs.

This publication builds on earlier work by the First Nations Early Childhood Development Council (FNECDC), specifically; the *BC First Nations Early Childhood Development Framework* and research completed by BCACCS entitled *Training and Retention in the First Nations ECE Sector: A Report from the Frontlines*.

#### Striving for Quality

In partnership with the First Nations Health Authority; 250 delegates from more than 200 programs throughout the province participated in the BCACCS's 17th annual training conference in November 2014. The theme - Hand in Hand: Health and Wellness for All with Quality Care - recognizes that in preparing our children for the future we must consider the interconnection of mental, physical, emotional and spiritual aspects that contribute to community health.

Eugene Harry (XiQulem), our Cultural Advisor, welcomed delegates and our opening keynote speaker, Dr. Charlotte Waddell inspired us all. Highlights included an amazing closing presentation with

Dr. Rod McCormick (Kanienkehaka) and Elder Gerry Oleman (Saa Hiil Thut). The three day conference consisted of 5 full day workshops during preconference and 24 workshops on days one and two. Topics included: bullying, grant writing, mental health, and assessment.

#### Making Connections

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



Mary Teegee, ACEI Global Summit 2014

In order to provide training opportunities, and disseminate and develop resources key collaborations occurred with: First Nations Health Authority (FNHA), Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC), 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), Vancouver Island University (VIU), 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).

Staff also provided informational workshops to the University of Victoria, Capilano University, and the University of Northern BC.

### Our People / Staff & Board

#### BCACCS Staff

- Karen Isaac, Executive Director
- Mary Burgaretta, ACCRR Program Manager / Aboriginal Child Care Advisor
- Kirsten Bevelander, Child Care Advisor
- Lani Billon, Aboriginal Child Care Advisor
- Fionn Yaxley, Communications Officer
- Scott (Iax-Iya7) Nahanee, Accounts Payable / Administration
- Eugene Harry, (XiQulem), Cultural Advisor
- 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 of Child & Family Services, Carrier Sekani Family Services
- Member, Minister's Advisory Council on Aboriginal Women
- Maurice Squires, Vice-President
- Director, Nisga'a Child and Family Services
- Al Lawrence, Treasurer / Secretary
- Owner/Operator Kidz Co
- Sue Sterling, Director
- Aboriginal ECD Consultant
- Member, HELP Aboriginal Advisory Committee
- Robert Lagasse, Director
- Chief Executive Officer, Sts'ailes 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
- Executive Director, Kw'umut Lelum Child & Family Services

#### 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, 2015, and the statements of operations and changes in fund balances, and 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 controls 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 controls.

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 is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

**Opinion**  
In our opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of B.C. Aboriginal Child Care Society as at March 31, 2014, and its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles for not for profit organizations.

REID HURST NAGY INC. CHARTERED PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTANTS  
RICHMOND, B.C. SEPTEMBER 3, 2015

# Financials

Statement of Operations and Changes in Fund Balances for the year ended March 31, 2015

	2015		Capital Actual \$	Total \$	2014 Total \$
	Operations Budget \$ (Unaudited)	Actual \$ (Schedule 1)			
<b>REVENUE</b>					
Aboriginal Head Start Association of BC	-	375	-	375	10,000
Donations	17,000	33,188	-	33,188	654
ECE Scholarship	2,500	3,040	-	3,040	2,675
First Nations Education Steering Committee (FNESC)	26,000	14,016	-	14,016	15,500
First Nations Inuit Health Branch (FNIHB)	200,000	200,000	-	200,000	200,000
Handling fees	82,874	86,565	-	86,565	131,936
Human Resources & Skills Development Canada	-	-	-	-	78,638
Membership	1,000	4,290	-	4,290	3,133
Miscellaneous	49,950	42,152	-	42,152	36,485
National Collaborating Centre for Aboriginal Health	10,000	10,000	-	10,000	15,000
Province of BC (CCOF)	14,000	17,615	-	17,615	8,746
Province of BC (Capital Funds)	-	2,000	-	2,000	-
Province of BC (MCFD)	380,000	430,000	-	430,000	349,200
Public Health Agency of Canada	712,180	738,680	-	738,680	726,974
Registration	42,000	44,490	-	44,490	50,011
Special Projects	-	-	-	-	12,793
Speech and Language Resource	28,000	14,929	-	14,929	37,464
Vancouver Nations Health Society	-	4,921	-	4,921	11,490
Workshop	25,000	11,120	-	11,120	17,377
	1,590,504	1,657,381	-	1,657,381	1,708,076

<b>EXPENDITURES</b>					
AECD service planning (CSFS)	8,000	8,817	-	8,817	27,045
Accounting	25,504	22,000	-	22,000	22,000
Advertising	2,500	-	-	-	2,203
Audit	12,500	10,595	-	10,595	13,084
Bank charges	-	564	-	564	300
Banquet and catering	55,000	52,050	-	52,050	45,046
Building	39,710	-	-	-	-
Conference coordinator	12,000	12,690	-	12,690	11,061
Contracted services/workshops	65,816	122,897	-	122,897	123,337
Courier and postage	5,600	4,264	-	4,264	7,340
Depreciation	-	-	23,127	23,127	32,015
ECE Scholarship	2,500	5,540	-	5,540	6,175
Equipment	22,609	31,436	-	31,436	34,656
Handling fee	82,874	86,565	-	86,565	131,936
Honoraria and presenters' fees	27,669	13,325	-	13,325	10,433
Insurance	6,206	14,844	-	14,844	12,131
Legal fees	-	110	-	110	19,760
Materials and supplies	34,292	35,891	-	35,891	39,156
Meeting rooms	3,500	6,171	-	6,171	3,000
Miscellaneous	3,500	11,908	-	11,908	10,179
Office supplies	9,888	5,617	-	5,617	6,843
Photocopying and printing	16,671	9,901	-	9,901	11,866
Publications	-	5,126	-	5,126	17,830
Registration fees (FNIH)	35,000	33,950	-	33,950	38,850
Renovations	-	5,342	-	5,342	11,993
Rent and utilities	106,913	107,249	-	107,249	99,699
Salaries and benefits	801,070	790,315	-	790,315	845,890
Special projects	-	-	-	-	3,840
Speech and Language Resource (Moe)	25,000	14,058	-	14,058	37,507
Telephone/internet	12,060	32,392	-	32,392	34,892
Training	16,200	14,135	-	14,135	11,489
Travel	153,205	148,499	-	148,499	186,852
	1,585,787	1,606,251	23,127	1,629,378	1,858,408

EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUE OVER EXPENDITURES	4,717	51,130	(23,127)	28,003	(150,332)
FUND BALANCE, BEGINNING OF THE YEAR		264,783	86,948	351,731	546,450
PRIOR YEAR SURPLUS (RECOVERY)		-	-	-	(44,387)
INVESTED IN CAPITAL ASSETS		(91,761)	11,029	(80,732)	-
<b>FUND BALANCE, END OF THE YEAR</b>		<b>224,152</b>	<b>74,850</b>	<b>299,002</b>	<b>351,731</b>

Statement of Financial Position March 31, 2015				Statement of Cash Flows For the Year Ended March 31, 2015			
	2015 Operations \$	2015 Capital \$	2014 Total \$	2015 \$	2014 \$		
<b>ASSETS</b>							
Cash	75,495	-	75,495	170,594		CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	
Investment	5,000	-	5,000	5,000		Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenditures	
Accounts receivable	181,479	-	181,479	187,143		28,003 (150,332)	
Due from employees	5,578	-	5,578	4,106		Prior year surplus repayment	
GST receivable	11,173	-	11,173	10,619		(44,387)	
Prepaid expenses	25,284	-	25,284	18,643		Add: Depreciation on capital assets	
						23,127 32,015	
	304,009	-	304,009	396,105		51,130 (162,704)	
TANGIBLE CAPITAL	-	74,850	74,850	86,948		Decrease in non-cash current assets	
						(3,003) (39,785)	
	304,009	74,850	378,859	483,053		Decrease in non-cash current liabilities	
						(51,465) (16,816)	
						(3,338) (219,305)	
<b>LIABILITIES</b>							
Accounts payable & accrued liabilities	45,771	-	45,771	65,302		CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES	
Payroll liabilities	31,378	-	31,378	61,272		Tangible capital assets acquired	
Donation proceeds payable	1,708	-	1,708	4,748		(91,761) (25,255)	
Refundable deposit	1,000	-	1,000	-		NET DECREASE IN CASH	
	79,857	-	79,857	131,322		(95,099) (244,560)	
FUND BALANCES						CASH - BEGINNING OF THE YEAR	
Unrestricted	224,152	-	224,152	264,783		170,594 415,154	
Invested in capital assets	-	74,850	74,850	86,948		CASH - END OF THE YEAR	
	224,152	74,850	299,002	351,731		75,495 170,594	
	304,009	74,850	378,859	483,053			

