



Surrounded by Cedar Child & Family Services

Annual Report  
2017/18

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***Surrounded by Cedar Child & Family Services is located on the traditional territories of the Lkwungen people, known today as the Songhees and Esquimalt Nations. With gratitude, we raise our hands to you as the traditional keepers of these beautiful lands and waters and for allowing us to work in your territories.***

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### **Our Logo:**

In the spirit of spindle whorls, the logo for Surrounded by Cedar depicts an adult face with a smaller child's face inside the mouth. Surrounding these two faces are the dendrochronological rings of red and yellow cedar.

"The red and yellow of the design symbolize red and yellow cedar, while the adult's face with the child inside its mouth represent the vitality of caring for future generations of children. I wanted the design to represent the growth of Surrounded by Cedar as an agency, while also representing my personal growth as an artist". lessLIE



**Mission:** Surrounded by Cedar Child & Family Services will provide child and family services rooted in cultural values and beliefs to restore and enhance the strength and resiliency in the urban Aboriginal community.

**Vision:** Our vision is of healthy children who will grow up connected to their families, communities and culture. We will work together toward the day all children and families have skills, knowledge, education and support to ensure their children and their children's children will not enter the child welfare or justice system.

**Service Delivery:** SCCFS provides services to Aboriginal children and families living within the Geographical Service Area (GSA), excluding Metis children and families and First Nations children and families from the First Nations bands within the GSA.

GSA means the Geographical Service Area within which SCCFS will provide services and excludes those First Nations communities referred to as bands in the *Indian Act* within those boundaries.



## Our Core Values

All SCCFS employees, volunteers, contractors, practicum students and Board Members shall:

1. Support the belief that Aboriginal social and cultural traditions are the strongest resources for helping families.
2. Utilize the wisdom and applicability of traditional teachings in their practice.
3. Encourage and support the use of materials that are culturally relevant in content and method, in providing effective Aboriginal child welfare services.
4. Support the belief that the values and principles of traditional teachings support effective practice today.
5. Strive to work effectively within the context of Aboriginal cultural, to be culturally competent, and respectful.
6. Provide effective services to families with an understanding of history, the dynamics of oppression, contemporary politics, and the influence that these have in Aboriginal families' lives.
7. Support the belief that the highest priorities for child welfare are the child's safety and well-being.
8. Protect children through services that preserve and strengthen their families, extended families and their tribes.
9. Hold a commitment to a child's sense of belonging including the child's right to grow up within his or her own extended family, Aboriginal community and culture.
10. Be committed to compliance with the *Child, Family and Community Service Act (CFCSA)* and Aboriginal child welfare best practice standards.



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Rattles made by youth at the 2018 Xe'Xu T'uluts'thut Youth Leadership Summer Camp



## Members of the Board of Directors

Della Preston	President
Suzanne Wilkinson	Vice President
Bruce Underwood	Treasurer
Lonnie Gosek	Secretary
Jacquie Green	Director
Jeanine Cooper	Director
Guy Louie Sr.	Nuu-Chah-Nulth Representative
Victor Newman	Elder Representative (On Leave)



## Current Stars of Surrounded by Cedar

### Administration Team

Executive Assistant	Maren Gray
Guardianship Team Assistant	Alana Lukenbill-Williams
Resources Team Assistant	Katie Jacobs
Reception	Tashanna Dennis
Office Assistant	Charlene Barney

### Elder in Residence

Elder	VACANT
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### Guardianship & Permanency Planning

Team Leader	Alysha Brown
Social Worker	Shelley Lafrance
Social Worker	Jenna Bailey
Social Worker	Bel Manson
Social Worker	Mia Yule
Social Worker	Courtney Norris-Jones
Lifelong Connections Worker	Kristy Potskin
Practicum Student	Shelina Point

### Resources & Support Services

Team Leader	
Social Worker	Danielle St. Clair
Social Worker	Wes Haase
Child & Youth Counselor	Cheryl McLoughlin St. Amour
Intensive Youth Support Worker	Amy Whitney
Cultural Program Coordinator	Sarah Underdown
Cultural Support Worker	Brandi Lancaster
Cultural Continuity Worker	Meagan Saulnier

### Finance

Finance Manager	Maria Owen
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### Program Management

Program Manager	Robin Croteau
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### Executive

Executive Director	Jennifer Chuckry
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## Agenda

Surrounded by Cedar Child & Family Services  
Annual General Meeting  
#211 – 1497 Admirals Road, Victoria BC  
Tuesday, October 23, 2018

11 a.m. Registration

Noon Prayer and Lunch

1 p.m. Welcome to Territory

### AGM Business

- Welcome & Opening Remarks

- Call to Order

- Establish Quorum

- Review Agenda

- Review 2016/17 AGM Minutes

- Business Arising from Minutes

- Review Extraordinary General Meeting Minutes from October 2, 2018

- Report of the President: Della Preston

- Report of the Executive Director: Jennifer Chuckry/Slideshow Presentation

- Report of the Treasurer

- Appointment of the Auditor

- Questions from the Floor

- Board Elections

- Meeting Adjournment

2:30 p.m. Closing

## **Minutes of the 2016/17 Annual General Meeting**

September 26, 2017

Venue: St. Peter and St. Paul's Anglican Parish, 1379 Esquimalt Rd

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### **Board Members Present:**

Della Preston – President

Suzanne Wilkinson – Vice President

Niki Bresser – Treasurer

Bruce Underwood - Director

### **Absent:**

Jacquie Green – Secretary

**Chair:** Bill Bresser

4:30PM Registration

5:20PM Dinner Prayer

6:20PM Acknowledgement and Traditional Territory Welcome – Garry Sam Jr.  
Introduction of the Chair – Bill Bresser

### **1. Opening Remarks and Welcome from SCCFS President – Della Preston**

Introduction of Della Preston, SCCFS Board President

Acknowledgement of Caterers – Jessica Sault, SeeFood Catering

### **2. Meeting called to Order**

### **3. Establish Quorum – 33**

### **4. Review Agenda for September 26, 2017**

### **5. Motion #1 – Move to adopt the Agenda for September 26, 2017**

Moved: Bruce Parisian

Seconded: Katelynn Herchak

All in Favour

Motion Carried.

### **6. Review 2015/2016 AGM Minutes from January 27, 2017**

## **7. Business Arising from the Minutes**

None

## **8. Motion #2 – Move to approve 2015/2016 AGM Minutes**

Moved: Bruce Parisian

Seconded: Victor Newman

All in Favour

Motion Carried.

## **9. Report of the President – Della Preston**

- Acknowledgement of Jennifer Chuckry, who has been the new Executive Director since February 2017 and acknowledgement of MCFD colleagues for their support.
- The President reiterated that the Child Protection CG delegation process is on hold until further notice. The agency will take the time to work with the Nations and strengthen the relationships in the community.
- Recent changes to the *Societies Act* and the agency will be starting that work in 2018.
- Staff and Board training this year included Bullying, Harassment, Conflict & a Health Workplace and Lateral Violence Training.
- Acknowledgement of SCCFS staff and expressed appreciation for their care of the children and their time and contributions.
- Acknowledgement of Board Member Victor Newman.
- Acknowledgement of Niki Bresser, who contributed a tremendous amount of time, heart, knowledge, skill, and service to children and families.
- Acknowledgement of Jessie Jim, who was the NTC Representative for the last 7 years on the Board. Jessie is a very culturally grounded and incredible leader in the community, thanked for her time and commitment on the Board.
- Acknowledgement of Nella Nelson, as one of the founders of the organization. Nella contributed many hours and years providing her knowledge and experience. The President expressed the honour it has been having Nella share her cultural teachings and wisdom at our table and in our community.
- Remarks from Nella Nelson: Expressed appreciation and honour to be part of Surrounded by Cedar and her passion and heart for the organization. Acknowledgement of the work and staff for their contributions now and over the years.

## **10. Motion #3 – Move to Approve the Report of the President**

Moved: Lonnie Gosek

Seconded: Yasmin Prince

All in Favour.

Motion Carried.

## II. Report of the Executive Director – Jennifer Chuckry

- Opening remarks, acknowledgement of territory, Elders, Chiefs and matriarchs; husband, in-laws and their family for welcoming her to their family and community; introduction of self from Treaty 4 Territory in Saskatchewan.
- Surrounded by Cedar celebrated an important milestone, being incorporated for 15 years as a Society. The Executive Director expressed her gratitude to the trailblazers that saw a vision for the agency, and acknowledge Bruce Parisian, Nella Nelson and Lise Erikson, all in attendance.
- History of the organization from Many Generous Hands to the Victoria Urban Aboriginal Steering, comprised of representatives from the VNFC, Hulistan Social Services, and Metis Community Services. In 2002, the VUASC was renamed Surrounded by Cedar Child & Family Services. In 2004, SCCFS hired its first social workers, had its first delegation agreement with the Province signed in 2005, and in 2009, the agency received their first transfer of files.
- The organization currently has a staff of 20. The agency has invested a lot of time hiring people into permanent positions while practicing fair and accountable hiring practices and has been actively involved in the development of an Indigenous Recruitment and Retention Strategy, while working alongside the Jouta Performance Group to focus and streamline HR processes and practices.
- The Cultural Programming department has been busy; however, staffing has been unstable. Youth and Elder's Dinners took place monthly, with the last dinner in April 2017. Moving forward, the program will host monthly Tea and Bannock Teachings, hoping to capture more young children in attendance. Earthwalker's Spring and Summer camps were great successes, including trips to the museum, cedar work, drum making, traditional games and meaningful time on the land. Cultural programming is provided on each professional development day within School District 61. In June, the agency hosted a traditional dance event at the Songhees Wellness Center.
- Presently the agency is responsible for 90 children and youth in continuing care, and 5 others have been identified to transfer soon. SCCFS continues to honour its protocol agreement with the Nuuchahnulth Tribal Council and approximately 33% of our children and youth are coming from Nuuchahnulth nations. Youth transitioning out of care on their 19<sup>th</sup> birthdays were recognized in May at the Wawadit'la at the Annual Nest to Wings Ceremony. Two youth that graduated high school in 2016 were also recognized at this event.
- Connecting children and youth to their cultural identities and traditional territories is a focus. In the last year, two youth attended the Hobiye Celebrations in Vancouver, five attended the Gathering Our Voices Conference Kelowna and seven youth attended the Yellow Wolf Powwow in Tsartlip. With the announcement of additional funds available through the Province to support cultural connections for Indigenous children and youth in care, SCCFS intends to hire a temporary employee whose main duties will be to connect with our children and youth's Nations, travel with them to their home territories, and provide in home cultural support.



- Permanency planning remains a major priority for the guardianship program, whose goal it is to finalize 10 permanency plans, including 5 rescindments, 2 adoptions, and 3 transfers of custody.
- Recruitment and retention have remained a major priority for the Resource Team which supports approximately 45 foster homes of varying levels.
- The SCCFS Foster Parent Group has been meeting regularly and have also been involved in organizing ongoing training for SCCFS caregivers, focusing on culturally appropriate training and teachings. October is Foster Parent Appreciation Month and the agency will be hosting a luncheon to honour its caregivers for the amazing work they do.
- The LifeLong Connections Worker received referrals from SCCFS and MCFD social workers. From January to August, nine referrals were made, and 8 files were closed. One child in MCFD care was returned to his mother; two great aunties traveled to meet their nephew and one child in SCCFS' care was connected to his great grandparents. The LLC Worker Seneca, was a tremendous support to the Cultural Program over the last year, filling in caps to ensure the programming was minimally impacted.
- SCCFS welcomed Rachel Street, as the new Intensive Youth Support Worker in early 2017. This program receives referrals from MCFD and SCCFS workers, focusing on providing culturally appropriate services and supports to young people considered high risk. The program has received 11 new referrals, and while providing support 60 youth were carried forward from the previous worker.
- Jennifer Dreyer returned to her position as the Child and Youth Counsellor in December after a one-year maternity leave. Returning to the contract deliverables, the counsellor delivers counselling groups, focused on traditional self-care, social learning emotional regulation, and cultural identity development. A girls group is underway, focusing on coming of age and becoming a woman, as well as a monthly Reconnection Support group and Traditional Storytime for families. The program is working developing a caregiver support group focusing on the challenges of parenting children and youth impacted by trauma and addressing ways of healing through trauma informed caregiving strategies.
- Early in 2017, the staff and Board members participated in a one-day strategic planning session to revitalize the work done in 2014. A Strategic Planning working document was created to guide the work for the next year. Moving forward, the agency is looking at training in unconscious bias and cultural agility, as well as trauma informed practice.
- The Annual Winter Feast will take place in December, and the agency will host an Open House in January. SCCFS is working on keeping the community informed through quarterly newsletters, and the agency's website calendar, and a website overhaul.
- Hands raised, acknowledgement and expressed gratitude to the staff for their work and dedication to caring for children, the Board of Directors for their support and guidance, Maren Gray for organizing the AGM, Bill Bresser for chairing and MCFD for their continued support.

- Hands raised and acknowledgements to the membership, community members and partners for believing in the work being done for children and youth and to the staff and their families for sharing their time and the time of their loved ones.

**12. Motion #4 – Move to Approve the Report of the Executive Director**

Moved: Lila Underwood

Seconded: Lynne Crawshaw

All in Favour

Motion Carried.

**13. Report of the Treasurer – Niki Bresser, Treasurer BDO Canada**

- Auditor Bill Cox of BDO unable to attend meeting due to schedule conflict.
- Board Treasurer, Niki Bresser will not be seeking re-election due to new employment with the Ministry of Attorney General.
- Acknowledgement to the community and the Board for their support during her time as Board member.
- Reviewing the Financial Statements, SCCFS had a very successful audit and BDO recognized how well and accurate the books were kept.
- BDO reported there were no issues, it was a clean audit and that the work done by the Finance Manager and Executive Director were held to the highest financial standards.

**14. Motion #5 – Move to Accept the Financial Statements and Report of the Treasurer**

Moved: Lonnie Gosek

Seconded: Bruce Parisian

All in Favour.

Motion Carried.

**15. Appointment of the Auditor –**

- The Board is in favor of appointing Bill Cox from BDO Canada as the auditor for the 2017/2018 year.
- Written correspondence from Bill Cox indicates he will accept the appointment as auditor for the 2017/2018 year.

**16. Motion #6 – Move to Accept the Appointment of the Auditor for 2017/2018**

Moved: Nella Nelson

Seconded: Lila Underwood

All in Favour

Motion Carried.

## **17. Questions or Comments from the floor:**

- Lynne Crawshaw shared her experience attending youth and Elders' dinners and volunteering with 3 of the SCCFS employees at the Back to School Picnic. Expressed congratulations for seeing the agency grow and honoured to be part of it.

## **18. Board Elections – Call for Nominations**

**Nominee #1:** Jeanine Cooper

**Nominated by:** Bruce Parisian

**Nomination accepted?** Yes

**Member in good standing for 60 days?** Yes

**Nominee #2:** Lonnie Gosek

**Nominated by:** Bradley Dick

**Nomination accepted?** Yes

**Member in good standing for 60 days?** Yes

**Nominee #3:** Jacquie Green

**Nominated by:** Bruce Underwood

**Nomination accepted?** YES

**Member in good standing for 60 days?** Yes

## **19. Motion #7 – Move to Close Nominations from the Floor**

Moved: Bruce Parisian

Seconded: Katelynn Herchak

All in Favour

Motion Carried.

*Jeanine Cooper, Lonnie Gosek and Jacquie Green elected to the Board of Directors.*

## **20. Motion #8 – To Adjourn Business and Close the Floor**

Moved: Bruce Parisian

All in Favour.

Motion Carried.



## Report of the Board of Directors

To begin we would like to acknowledge the territory; we are ever grateful to the Lkwungen people for allowing us to live, work, and play on the lands they have stewarded since time immemorial. We also acknowledge the WSA NEC, T'Souke, Malahat, and Scia'new peoples as we do business upon their traditional lands as well. We raise our hands to all our friends and relatives in the South Island.

The past year has been busy as usual. Among our most exciting news is that three of our children had their Continuing Custody Orders rescinded permanently. The days were full of official business, ceremony, and celebration as the presiding judge allowed us to bring our cultural ways into the courtroom for these events. Hopefully, we will continue to see more of these in the future as we help families to stay together and stay connected to culture.

We have also quite recently celebrated an adoption within our agency. The two families came together with many staff and supporters, and good words were shared while the young man became a permanent part of his loving family. It was an extremely touching event and one I will hold in my heart for time to come.

These are some of the events that we strive to do each and every day--we want each and every child that comes to and through our agency to know they are loved, that they belong, and that they have a rich heritage to draw upon that includes family, and culture, and ways of being

that reflect who we are and where we come from. It is the heart of why we exist in the first place.

This past year we have also worked diligently to update and approve a new constitution and bylaws as per the requirements of the new Societies Act. We will continue to work in partnership with MCFD as we advocate for wage parity amongst our non-delegated contracts. Our usual lineup of annual events have all unfolded in good ways as our staff work so hard to make these events shine for our children and families. And we continue to put CG plans on hold as we focus on renewing and rebuilding our relationships with our partners who include our surrounding Nations and our sister agencies. We hosted a breakfast meeting with the local Chiefs to initialize this step forward, and we are currently planning another community event to continue this important work. And we continue to attend the AGMs of all our sister agencies as a way to show solidarity and support. We know that all our agencies are serving the same South Island population, so it's good for us to work together to help create the best urban Aboriginal community we can for everyone involved. We look forward to working collectively to support our communities and families together.

All this to say, I am so proud of all the work we do, each and every day, for our children, for our families, and for our communities. We raise our hands to each and every staff person at SCCFS as we know they bring the very best of their hearts to their work every day.



## Report of the Executive Director, Jennifer Chuckry

I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the Lkwungen people, whose lands our office is situated upon, whose lands we work and play upon each day. I am a visitor to this territory, and I give thanks to the traditional keepers of these beautiful lands and waters. I would also like to acknowledge the WSÁNEĆ, T'sou-ke, MÁlexet, and Scia'new people whose traditional territories Surrounded by Cedar also conducts its business upon. You have cared for these territories from time immemorial, nurtured the spirits of the land, the water and the air. For this, I am truly grateful. It is with great honour that SCCFS provide an update on all the amazing work we were involved in during the 2017/18 fiscal year. Details regarding our programming outcomes are reflected in the reports provided by our Team Leaders and employees, later within this Annual Report.


First and foremost, I must raise my hands to each of the people I work alongside at SCCFS. It takes very special individuals with great big hearts to champion the important, yet incredibly complex work we are involved in on a daily basis. Each day, I am honoured to work with such dedicated individuals who keep our children, youth and families at the center of all they do, while ensuring that the day to day practice is strongly rooted in Indigenous cultural values and beliefs. I also raise my hands to our Board of Directors, who remain an incredible team of volunteers! I thank each of you for your ongoing support, your belief in our organization, and your dedication to urban Indigenous children, youth and families. And finally, I raise my hands to the amazing Maren Gray for all of her hard work in putting together

this year's Annual General Meeting. I know how much work you put into ensuring that our community is welcomed, has a fabulous meal, and that the business is well organized.

Staffing has presented some challenging waters for the agency to navigate over the course of the last year. A number of employees accepted positions with the province, while others went on to pursue their education, explore their identity through an Indigenous Internship Program, or return to their homelands. Nonetheless, SCCFS has maintained its commitment to fair and accountable hiring practices and has been very focused on how it onboards new employees.

In response to the increasing mental health needs of the children and youth serviced at SCCFS, the agency has been advocating for a child and youth mental health position through the Ministry of Children and Family Development. SCCFS believes that culture is one of the biggest protective factors in the lives of our children and youth and as such, mental health services must be rooted in cultural modalities of healing and wellness. While there are Aboriginal child and youth mental health teams located in Victoria, the cultural focus of mental well-being is missing within these services, and this has a greater impact on our children and youth. SCCFS is also advocating for wage parity and contract updates amongst its other non-delegated programming.





Over the last year, SCCFS has remained committed to building and nurturing relationships with the urban Indigenous community, the South Island Nations, sister organizations, and allies. The work of caring for children is not entirely realized without strong and healthy connections. I raise my hands to our community partners for the difficult work you do each day in caring for children, youth and families.

Several annual events took place at SCCFS during this fiscal. In May, 2017, we hosted our annual Nest to Wings Ceremony at the Wawaditla where we honoured our high school graduates and those youth who were preparing to leave care. In June, we partnered with several organizations and took part in the National Indigenous Day Celebrations. We also partnered with Indigenous Perspectives Society to host two BC Child & Youth In Care celebrations. Foster Parent Appreciation Month took place in October, and our most amazing caregivers were hosted at a luncheon, honoured in song by some of our local drummers. In December 2017, SCCFS hosted approximately 300 people at its annual Winter Feast. Several knowledge keepers were invited to share stories of winter teachings with our children and youth, moving the focus away from the commercialism that the holiday season can present.

In January 2018, SCCFS hired its first Cultural Continuity Worker. The position remains a temporary, but crucial position, made possible through funds provided by MCFD. The focus of this position is to connect with our children and youth's Nations, travel with our children and youth to their home territories, and to provide in-home cultural support that focuses on the individual identities of each child/youth. We have

experienced fantastic success in such a short period of time and are awaiting news as to whether or not SCCFS will receive more funds to allow this work to carry on. In February, SCCFS staff attended the Moose Hide Campaign's Day of Fasting in Victoria. This is such an important grassroots movement! Throughout the day, several employees spent the day in fast, while taking part in workshops that focused on ending violence against women and children. A march to legislature took place, where the Province announced \$2 million in funding to support the work of Moose Hide. This same month, several SCCFS staff took part in the Stolen Sisters Memorial March, a march that honours our murdered and missing Indigenous women. Prior to this event, staff came together to prepare prayer ties, which were offered to those in attendance at the march. We also took time to honour all of our murdered and missing men.

Moving forward, SCCFS will be focused on the growth of its programming to urban Indigenous children, youth and families. In collaboration with the Board of Directors, the agency's strategic priorities will be reviewed and updated as necessary. SCCFS will assume responsibility for Agreements with Young Adults (AYAs), Youth Agreements (YAGs) and voluntary services. SCCFS will also begin to explore the parameters of adoption delegation as an extension of the permanency planning work it is currently involved in. SCCFS remains hopeful that MCFD will support its request for a child and youth mental health position and for wage parity amongst its non-delegated contracts. And most importantly, SCCFS will continue to focus on the sacredness of all children and youth and their right to grow up connected in a meaningful way to their spirits and identities. Ekosi. Jennifer Chuckry

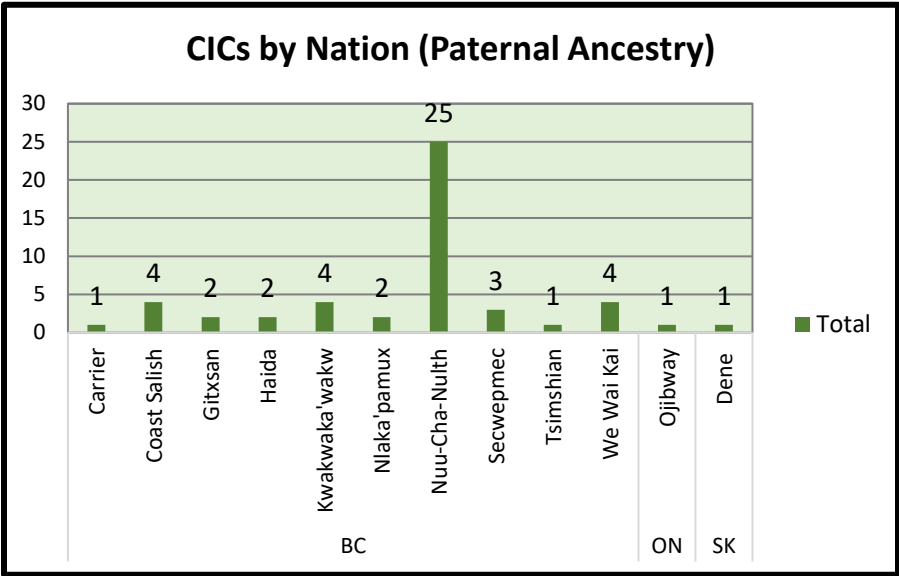
# Guardianship & Permanency Planning

Hello Everyone! It's hard to believe I have been in the Team Leader role for the Guardianship and Permanency Planning Team, for almost two years. Time flies when you're having fun! I feel very honoured to be given this opportunity to lead such a dynamic group of hard-working social workers. This year has been extremely busy and challenging with moments of being enormously rewarding. Every day, I am grateful to work with Surrounded by Cedar Child and Family Services, alongside this amazing team. I raise my hands to the Lkwungen people who share their beautiful territories with all of us each day.

We have a fantastic team of five **guardianship social workers**: Brendan Elliott, Jenna Bailey, Shelley Lafrance, Bel Manson and Mia Yule. We have had three position changes: Kristina Griffiths, Nola Campbell and Amanda Large all left us between March 2017 and April 2018 to pursue other career endeavors and thank them for all the wonderful work they did during their time at SCCFS. Having said this, we've had a somewhat stable team as Mia Yule, our practicum student, accepted a permanent position in April and Jenna Bailey returned from maternity leave in August! Together, the team brings a wealth of knowledge and experience working with children and families within the Aboriginal community and I am so

honoured to be able to grow and learn with these workers. We also have a very supportive (and patient!) Team Assistant: Alana Lukenbill-Williams, who continues to provide an exceptional level of support for us to do our jobs.

During the 2017-2018 fiscal year, Surrounded by Cedar Child and Family Services provided services to 95 urban Aboriginal children and youth in the continuing care of the Director. This number is always in fluctuation due to transfers to and from MCFD and Delegated Agencies around the province, transfers to and



from other service areas on the island, as well as the completion of permanency plans and youth aging out of care. We strive each day to provide services rooted in culture and connectedness, working with children and youth from Nations stretching right across Canada. This number includes some inter-provincial transfers from Manitoba, as well as courtesy work we provide for children placed in the care of Usma Nuuchahnulth Child and Family Services. Although the work is incredibly challenging, emotional, and complex, it is also extremely rewarding and we support each other as best we can.



In January 2018, the team was given the opportunity to create a **cultural continuity program** aimed at supporting children and youth in care to return to their home territories; it is too soon to report much of the amazing work that has been achieved through this program but I can report that because of this program, over 20 children in care have been supported to attend their home territories and meet members of their extended families!

Many more have been connected to cultural opportunities in the urban community which includes ceremony, and have been supported in-home to have access to appropriate books, music and art.

**Connecting children** and youth to their home territories and cultural events remains a priority for Surrounded by Cedar. During the summer of 2017, we had the fortune of supporting several children and families to travel to their home territories. This included our children in care travelling to Alert Bay, Hazelton, Guilford Island, Tofino, Zeballos and Squamish to see family. More formal trips with Social Workers included some of our children participating in welcoming home ceremonies: in Tl'azt'en, Ahousaht and Tla-o-qui-aht territories.

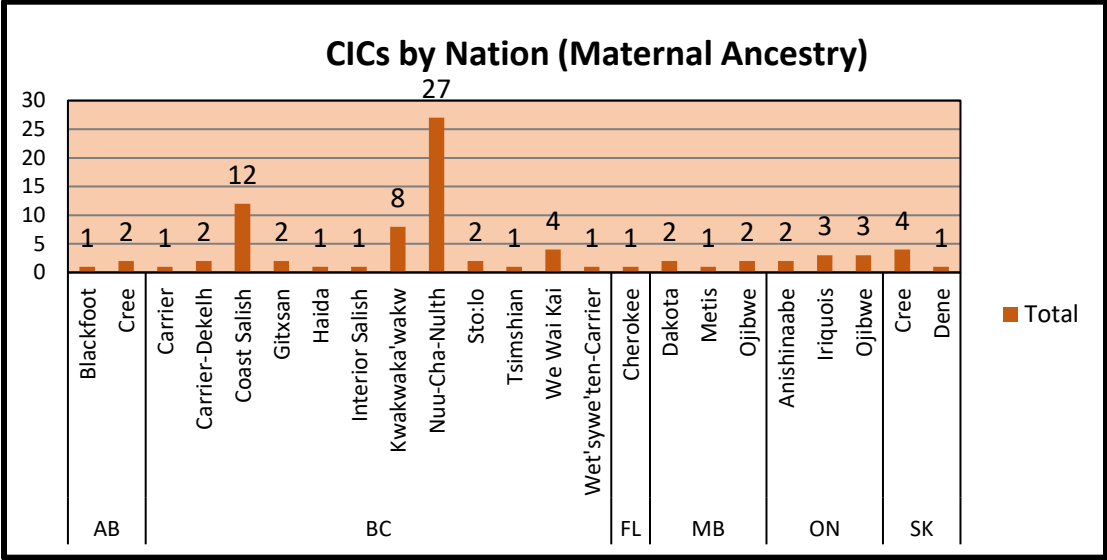
We also supported 5 children in care to attend Hobiye in Vancouver in February 2018 and supported 4 youth to participate in the Gathering Our Voices Youth Conference in Richmond in March 2018!

All in all, these experiences allowed many to engage in meaningful connections with their culture, Elders and extended family members. We know the outcomes for children in care are much better

when they have these lifelong connections. The team is committed to providing these opportunities as often as possible.

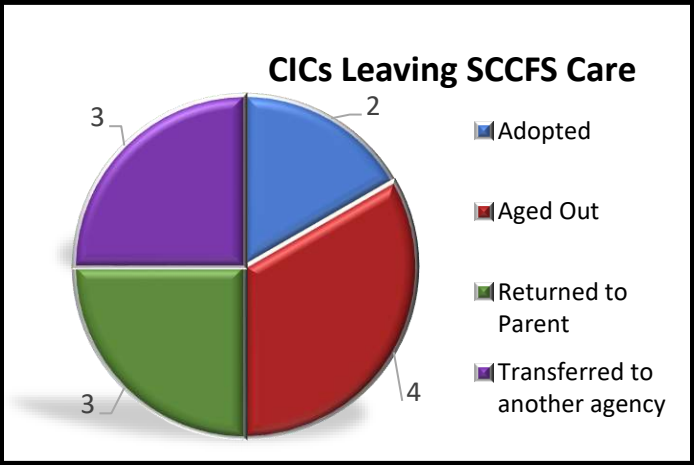
There continues to be great effort made to ensure that **permanency planning** happens for our children and youth in care in a timely manner. During the 2017/2018 year, 2 children in care were placed for adoption – one with an uncle and another with a local Indigenous family. Both children are doing exceptionally well and settling into their forever homes!

We were also honoured to facilitate and witness two brothers return to the care of their mother in December 2017, and another young woman return to the care of her mother in the Spring of this year



These were significant milestones for both families and our agency. A huge amount of work went into planning ceremony in the courtrooms for both reunifications – all the way from the judge gifting the family to spoken words from Elders to singing and drumming and, finally, to feasting with the family. It is something we are extremely proud of and continue to hear about in the community. We have another reunification planned for the Spring of 2019 when we will see two young women return to the care of their father as well as another adoption placement in the Fall of this year!

During the fiscal year, a total of 4 youth in care aged-out.



Some of these youth continue to engage with our agency in some capacity; it is so nice to have them continue to connect. Nest to Wings took place in June 2017 to honour this transition for our youth leaving care which is always an emotional time!

We saw two youth graduate from high school in June 2017, both from the Nuuchahnulth nation - what an incredible accomplishment for these young people! We are so incredibly proud of these youth and look forward to where their paths will take them next. One of these youth has successfully completed her first year at Camosun while being supported on the Agreements with Young Adults program! We have recently accepted transfer of 8 young people under Agreements with Young Adults and look forward to the promising things they will achieve with the additional support of the AYA program! In addition, we intend on receiving several transfers of youth on Youth Agreements in the coming months.

We look forward to the challenges and rewards that the next year will bring. The commitment of the entire Surrounded by Cedar team fills my heart, and their devotion and dedication helps me to maintain such gratitude to work here. Each day, we all come to work with a commitment to creating better outcomes for children, families and the community. I am confident in saying that we will continue to support our children and youth to reach new heights, to break cycles, and to create meaningful connections that support their wellbeing - however long they end up being with our agency.

All My Relations.

# Gitksan Homecoming

## 2018





## Resources & Support Services

Good afternoon everyone,

My name is Robin Croteau. I am the Team Leader for Resources and Support Services. I have been employed with SBC since 2012 and have worked on Lkwungen Territory (Victoria) since then. The past year has been challenging yet exciting with some staff members leaving and new ones joining the Support Services Team. Once again, I want to acknowledge how privileged I am to be able to work alongside an amazing group of people who show such dedication and commitment to those they work with as well as to the values, beliefs and vision of Surrounded by Cedar Child & Family Services.

Within the Support Services team there are 3 positions; Lifelong Connections, Intensive Youth Support, and Cultural Program. The role of the **Lifelong Connections Worker** is to perform extensive searches for family members for both Surrounded by Cedar children in care and the Ministry for Children and Family Development Aboriginal children in care. This role is crucial to permanency planning for our children as a permanent home within family and community may be located, or connections established with family and community that have been lost, but at the very least provide the child/youth with a genogram and information around their heritage and where they come from. The Lifelong Connections Worker carries a caseload of 12, with a large waiting list. In March 2018, Seneca Ambers, a long-time member of the Team resigned from her position to move on to a new position with the RCY. Seneca was a valuable member of the team and is wished all the best in her future career.

The **Intensive Youth Support Worker** position was created in March 2014. The role of the intensive youth

support worker is to provide support to high risk youth 12 to 19 years of age. These supports include but are not limited to connecting youth with cultural resources within the community, assistance with finding shelter, accessing basic needs or developing independent living skills through appropriate means. This position also provides services to Surrounded by Cedar and the Ministry of Children and Family Development. In March 2017, Rachel Street took over the position of Intensive Support Worker from Bel Manson who joined the Permanency Planning team. Rachel maintains a case load of 15 youth and has an ongoing wait list of approximately 3-4 youth at a time.

The **Cultural Program** provides integral cultural teachings and programs for our youth, Elders, community and families. The work that is done with our youth creates a strong sense of belonging and identity. Through Youth Leadership groups, Tea & Bannock night, day camps during spring break and pro-D days, as well as summer camps on the land it is amazing to see how many of our youth grow and learn throughout the year.

The cultural events calendar has been created for the upcoming year. This year we were unable to accommodate a youth through the Aboriginal Youth Internship but will be applying for a Youth intern for the summer of 2019. In November 2017 we welcomed Gordon Murray to the team on a year contract. Gordy brings a wealth of knowledge around culture and has been a wonderful addition to the cultural program.

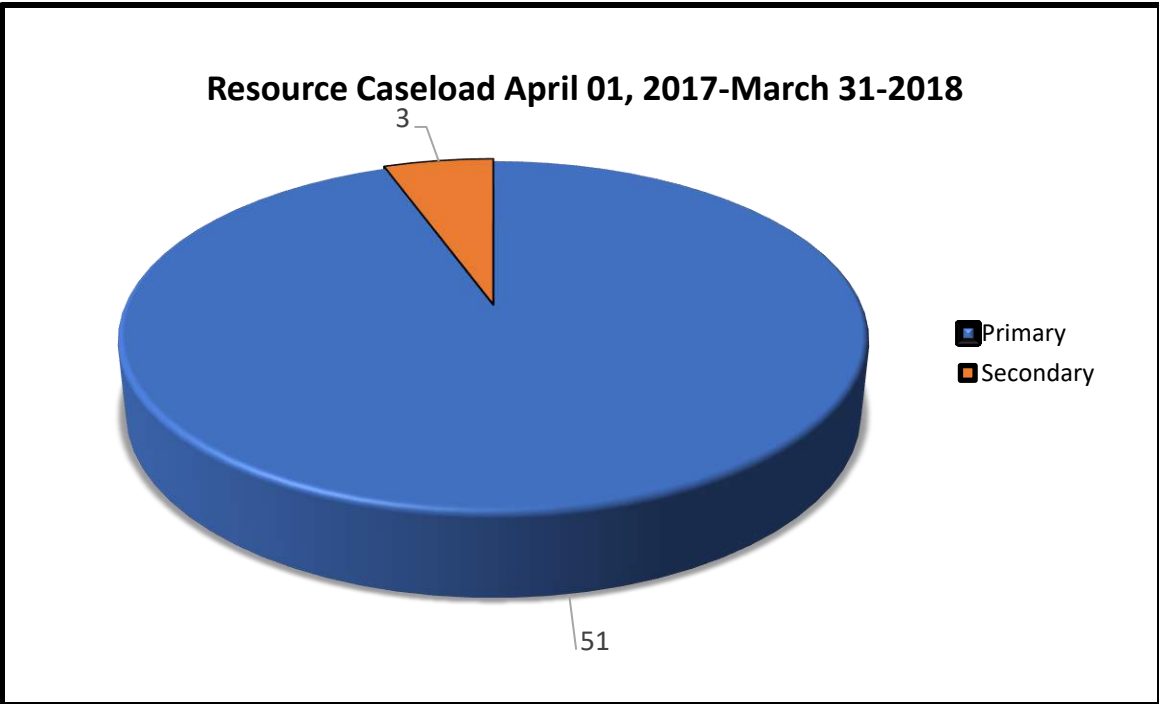


From April 30, 2017 to March 31, 2018 the resource caseload consisted of 54 care homes. Seven new applications were received, and we are currently in the process of completing 2 home studies. The recruitment of new caregivers is an ongoing challenge as we have had a total of 15 interested applicants, but only 7 completed an application and of those 7 we have only received the documentation to proceed with 2 home studies. The agency manned a booth at PRIDE and National Indigenous Day and received 7 potential applicants from these events. We have found that several potential care givers come to us through word of mouth but follow through for applicants seems to be an ongoing challenge for all agencies.

The resource team continues to work closely with Indigenous Perspectives Society, Foster Parents Support Services and MCFD on recruitment and retention of care givers. This year some of our caregivers developed and implemented an SBC foster parent support group. The purpose of the group is to provide support and training to care givers around culture for Indigenous children in care. The group meets monthly at SBC to support each other and to share information and knowledge. In October 2017 we acknowledged our care givers for Foster Parent Appreciation with a luncheon.

With the acknowledgement, respect and support of each other we continue to stabilize and grow over the past year. I am so proud of our teams, the agency and the work we all do.

Thank you,  
Respectfully submitted by Robin Croteau





## Intensive Youth Support

The Intensive Youth Support Worker (IYSW) position began at Surrounded by Cedar in March of 2014. Its focus is to help support the continued capacity and skill development of either high risk youth or youth in need of additional supports outside of the traditional guardianship responsibilities. The youth worker is responsible for a variety of duties as it pertains to youth between the ages of twelve to nineteen. In addition, the youth worker could potentially be available to support youth who are post majority, however, only for a specified time while the youth child in care file is still open with the social worker responsible.

Referrals to the IYSW generally come from social workers at the Ministry of Children and Families or from Surrounded by Cedar. The agency will accept referrals from other ancillary agencies that are working with urban Aboriginal families and youth as well.

Since the creation of IYSW position in March of 2014, there have been 79 files opened and youth accepted, encompassing a variety of goals for each youth. The amount of time each file stays open is based entirely on the youth and his or her participation and engagement with the IYSW as well as what each youth requires. Since I took on the position at the end of April this year there have been 8 files continued from the previous worker, and 14 new referrals. I carry an active caseload of 16 youth and a waitlist of 2 referrals.

As previously mentioned I took over the role of IYSW at the end of April this year. Allow me a moment here to introduce myself: My name is Amy Whitney and I am

honoured to be a part of the Surrounded by Cedar family. I am a proud Metis woman and my family is from Duck Lake Saskatchewan. I was not raised in my community or Culture, so I am truly blessed to be a part of such a strong culturally based agency here at Surrounded by Cedar. I completed my diploma for Community Support Worker in Social Services in 2010 at which time I was hired at the Victoria Native Friendship Centre. In the 8 years I was employed at VNFC I worked as an Infant Development Consultant, Supported Child Development Consultant, and the Youth and Family Counsellor on the Youth Team. I have worked with youth in the foster care system, the youth justice system, street entrenched youth, drug and alcohol addiction, trauma, PTSD, mental health difficulties and exploitation. Building safe, respectful connections filled with compassion is of the utmost priority when working with any youth on my caseload. This work is done from the heart, I feel honoured and privileged to work with the youth that I do.

This work does come with challenges of course. Starting to build a connection with the youth can take time; there is often a reluctance to allow another adult in to their life and it can take a long time for the trust to be built up. This work has taught me what true patience and compassion really mean. Youth are often disconnected from their family, community and culture and it can be a long time before a youth feels ready to explore this. I approach this with care, compassion and patience. I let every youth know this opportunity is there for them, once they are ready. There can be long waiting periods for resources and there is a lack of resources for at risk youth. This can often be a challenge and causes the Worker to be creative in finding supports and services for youth.

## Lifelong Connections

Hello! I'm Kristy Potskin, and my nation is Driftpile Cree Nation in northern Alberta, although I've lived in BC, specifically Quw'utsun/Lkwungen/T'Souke territory, for my whole life. I started as the Life Long Connections worker here at Surrounded by Cedar on July 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2018. Before that, I worked as a family support worker and ECD coordinator for Metis and Indigenous families. I graduated with a Bachelor of Social Work – Indigenous Specialization in June 2017; prior to that I took Indigenous Studies at Camosun College. I was very happy and excited to be offered this job at Surrounded by Cedar, especially in a unique position such as this one. It has certainly been a learning process, given that this role is far different from the family support/early childhood work I had done previously, but I welcome the opportunity to learn new skills. I appreciate getting to work with such a fun-loving, dedicated, and thoughtful group of colleagues at Surrounded by Cedar.

### Highlights

- A family that initially had somewhat unclear ideas of their Indigenous ancestry got specific information about their lineage and community.
- Cultural Continuity Worker Meagan Saulnier will be traveling to community with some of our children, and LLC work completed earlier February 2018 was used to locate connections in the community.

### Challenges

- Engaging families to participate in genogram work.
- Communication; specifically, getting people to return my calls.

### Statistics

- Total referrals (opened and closed)
  - The total number of referrals for this program since September 2012 is 144.
  - The total number of referrals for this year is 25.
  - Total of closed files for this year is 9.
  - Current caseload is 46 (14 open and 32 waitlisted).
- Communities contacted
  - There were approximately 6 separate communities contacted this year.

## Cultural Programming

Hello everyone. My traditional name is WapiskewMuskwa which translates to "Big White Bear", my English name is Gordy Bear. I am Cree/Metis from Sandy Bay Saskatchewan and have lived on Lkwungen Territory (Victoria) for most of my life. I am the Cultural Programs Coordinator at Surrounded by Cedar Child and Family Services. I started in the position in November 2017 and have had an amazing journey through working with the amazing youth and families, and my colleagues who work every day to help improve the quality of life for urban indigenous youth in care. My education is a community, family, and child studies diploma from Camosun college, with a specialization in indigenous family support. I also like to honor my cultural teachings that I bring into my work with youth and their families. Tiniki.

### Pro-D-Days 2017/2018:

use of traditional medicines, and medicine bags/pouches. The children made their own medicine pouches in the morning and in the afternoon, they walked to a local park to look at local medicines and identify the plants in their natural environment. The day ended with a closing circle and the group talked about the virtue of

gratitude, and what they enjoyed about the day. This way of closing provides staff with the opportunity to gain feedback from the children and garner new information on future activities.

Pro D Day Camp, February 23rd, 2018. Drum Making Day, and Traditional Teachings about the use of drums, and how to take care of them. The children made Elk Hide Drums in the morning and in the afternoon, they learned how to make drum sticks to go along with their new drums. The sticks were made from dowel, felt, and tape. The day ended with a closing circle and the group talked about some of the protocol around having a drum, and what they enjoyed about the day.

### Tea and Bannock Night 2017/2018:

Tea and Bannock Night has been very popular with our youth, families, and Elders. Tea and bannock has been an opportunity for our caregivers and youth to come together to meet other youth and caregivers, as well as elders and community members while learning or practicing traditional culture or ceremony.





Most tea and bannock night start with a meal where we have time to catch up with each other, have some tea and bannock, and share stories and tales about the month before an elder or knowledge keeper takes over for the night with some cultural activity. We have had such activities like beading, medicine making, pipe ceremony, corn husk dolls, traditional drumming, and many more.

Tea and Bannock nights continue to provide a safe place for our youth and families to connect with culture and community. Moving forward we look to continue having the monthly gathering in our boardroom and providing the opportunity for people to come together in a traditional way to share a meal and be connected to each other and cultural teachings.

### **Leadership Nights and Camp:**

Leadership nights this year started in January 2018 and continued until May 2018. These nights provide the opportunity to build a cohort of youth that are interested in developing their leadership and cultural knowledge. Through activities like envisioning nights, arts and culture nights, medicine teaching nights, and patience and mindfulness nights, we can incorporate values and virtues for the youth to learn and uphold as they walk through life. Some of our nights might be resume development, and strategic job hunting. Other nights might be how to show respect while at cultural events and developing a foundation to find their own culture.



Leadership Camp is taking the youth who attended leadership through the year and giving them a whole week of camping on the land fully submersed in cultural activity and leadership. In 2018, Leadership camp was held on Salt Spring Island in Cowichan Territory. Here the youth made drums and rattles, went Canoeing, went on medicine walks with elders, and where connected right with the land. At camp, the youth got to use their knowledge of respect and virtues when practicing personal space and respect for each other. Some of the Feedback from youth was:

"This has been the best camp ever, I can't wait to get home and share what I learned with my brother!"

"I already can't wait for next year, I am so happy I finally have a drum!"

"We had to wake up early, but each day was worth it"

## Winter Feast:



Winter Feast 2017 was a great success at the Leonardo Da Vinci Center in Victoria B.C. This year we opened it up to our CIC's and their Caregivers and Bio families. We had filled the space for 250 people and everyone enjoyed a meal prepared by Toque Catering. Mr. and Mrs. Cedar Claus (played by Alex and Nella Nelson) have always been a hit with the children at Winterfeast. Surrounded by Cedar also held a few tables of cookie decorating, and craft making alongside a popcorn machine! Children were very happy, and this year Surrounded by Cedar looks to return for another amazing year and do the same type of event.



## Earthwalker's Spring Break Camp

Spring Break camp for our age 7-11 age group called "Earthwalker's" was a high energy and fun packed week of exploring and adventuring this year. Our programming included things like going to the museum to go learn about language and traditional ways of being. Another day was going to see birds of prey and learning about eagles, ravens, hawks, and owls. The children got to eat lunch outdoors each day and have lots of time beachcombing and playing in parks.



Respectfully Submitted,  
Gordy Bear



## Child & Youth Counsellor


Early in the first quarter of 2017/18, SCCFS CYC Dept partnered with Victoria Native Friendship Center's FASD Key Worker Team to develop a girl's group for young women impacted by FASD or suspected to be impacted by FAE. Together the team developed a 12.5-hour wellness group curriculum that addressed: coming of age and becoming young women; self-love and traditional self-care; goals and dreaming big; intimate relationships and healthy sexuality; and managing relationships with family and friends. Unfortunately, due to limited registration, the group was canceled.

In response to the cancellation of the girl's group, SCCFS followed up with caregivers and youth to learn how to improve accessibility and engagement, and the consensus was to run afterschool programming during the school year and to book summer programs at least 6 months in advance as families preplan summer holidays. Therefore, in September 2017, a new Girl's Group "Afternoon Art Circle & Girls' Group" began. The program included feedback from the summer program and was open to Indigenous young women ages 12-15, with special consideration for youth impacted by FASD/FAE. Topics included: coming of age and becoming young women; self-love and traditional self-care; goals and dreaming big/planning for adulthood; intimate relationships and Indigenous healthy sexuality; managing relationships with family and friends; and understanding intergenerational trauma and how it effects young women and families today.

Two brand new groups were launched at SCCFS in September 2017: Traditional Storytime for Families and Reconnection Circle. The first is a monthly group for

family members rebuilding relationships and reconnecting with their relatives in care. In partnership with the Greater Victoria Public Library, SCCFS CYC hosts local storytellers and explores how storytelling can be used to address attachment disruptions. Stories have been selected to reflect cultural identity development and build resiliency in children and their loved ones to address historic and intergenerational trauma. Reconnection Circle, offered monthly along with the Traditional Storytime, is a support group for family members and extended family members building relationships with their kin in care. This program has been developed to meet a family service gap identified by the SCCFS delegated team pursuing permanency with family members. This group supports participants to address the challenges of reconnecting to children in care, manage unresolved grief and loss and historic trauma in their relationships with their children, restore traditional child rearing practices and build confidence in their role in their children's lives.

SCCFS CYC Dept also partnered with *Indigenous Perspective Society* in the summer of 2017 to develop another new counselling group for caregivers that addresses parenting through trauma in a culturally sensitive way. Based on research in Trauma Informed Practice and Indigenous Modalities of Helping, Surrounded by Cedar's caregiver training will address the daily challenges of parenting a child living with complex trauma. This program will build caregivers capacity to help children and youth reduce symptoms of stress, enhance emotional and behavioral regulation, and foster cultural identity and attachment in a culturally appropriate manner.



In addition to building caregiver's capacity to offer trauma informed caregiving, participants will learn cultural sensitivity and cultural safety in parenting Indigenous survivors of intergeneration trauma. Program launch will take place in the fall of 2018.

SCCFS participated in an Indigenous Young Women's Group at Stelly's High School where 12 young women, representing 6 different Nations, spent 8 weeks exploring the challenges of teenage-hood as young Indigenous women in Canada. In this arts-based counselling group, hosted in partnership with AGGV New Extreme's Artist, Chesa Kai Abma-Slade (Xwsepsum), the girls produced an art installation and video to share their learnings with other young women coping with self-esteem and body image, gender issues, racism and discrimination, colonization and intergeneration trauma.

Over Spring Break, our young men had a similar opportunity to explore the experience of being young warriors in our carving program which took place over the month of March, with talking circles, a field trip to Kwakwaka'wakw territory and a one-week intensive carving project. Over the course of the month, the circle address issues of transitioning to adulthood, aging out of care, drug & alcohol use, healthy sexuality, and reconnecting to culture and community.

Together with SCCFS Artist-in-Residence, Fabian Quocksister (Laichkwiltach/Songhees), four of our young men split a 2200-pound cedar log into three smaller logs that will be used for future carving programs at SCCFS.

Clinical consultation was a major focus of the Child & Youth Counsellor over the course of the year, addressing complex mental health concerns, facilitating cultural identity development and resilience, and supporting community-based referrals.

Responding the overdose epidemic, SCCFS participated in the Aids Vancouver Island Overdose Awareness and Prevention Symposium. The Child & Youth Counsellor provided feedback for a community action plan to address the crisis in Indigenous communities. As part of SCCFS's efforts to become more informed about the overdose crisis, SCCFS and VNFC partnered to begin a series of community-based workshops and two events were held: #TRUTHTALK which introduced drug use and recovery from an Indigenous perspective, and a Naloxone Train the Trainer Event which taught workers how to teach their clients about overdose prevention.

SCCFS CYC was also invited to join the MCFD *Indigenous Identities, Cultures and Rights* Working Group to design training for all MCFD and DAA service providers supporting Indigenous children, youth and families in BC.

## Back to School Picnic

The annual Aboriginal Back to School Picnics were once again so much fun for community, volunteers and staff alike. This year SCCFS was pleased to bring the program Prince George Native Friendship Centre on our way to Terrace and Prince Rupert. The team had some harrowing travel (see photo below) as they drove



through evacuated communities to get the supplies to our friends on the North Coast. We even had 15 fire evacuated children attend in Terrace.

Here in Victoria we provided supplies and gifts to 1160 students from pre-school to post-secondary and a combined total of 3400 students province wide.

The Picnic team traveled nearly 5000 km in total and hosted events in: Victoria, Duncan, Campbell River, Courtenay, Port Alberni, Nanaimo, Prince George, Terrace and Prince Rupert. Supplies were shipped to Mission and they hosted their own event this year.

In each community M'akola Housing staff and Friendship Centre staff came out to help us host their families and children and we are grateful for the chance to celebrate with our partners and the 10 communities.

We acknowledge the financial support of the province of BC, Vanity, Rina M Bidin Foundation, Monk Office, University of Victoria, Ridley Terminals Inc, MNP, Out of the Blue Designs and in-kind contributions from our friends at Government House.

Plans have already begun for next year's event, Saturday August 11, 2019.





## Audited Financial Statements

Surrounded By Cedar Child & Family  
Services Society  
Financial Statements  
For the year ended March 31, 2018



**Surrounded By Cedar Child & Family  
Services Society**  
Financial Statements  
For the year ended March 31, 2018

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## Independent Auditor's Report

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### To the Members of Surrounded By Cedar Child & Family Services Society

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Surrounded By Cedar Child & Family Services Society (the "Society") which comprise the Statement of Financial Position as at March 31, 2018 and the Statements of Operations, 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.

#### Auditor's 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 auditor's 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 auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation 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 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 Surrounded By Cedar Child & Family Services Society as at March 31, 2018 and the results of its operations and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

#### Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements

As required by the Societies Act (British Columbia), we report that, in our opinion, the accounting principles in Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations have been applied on a basis consistent with that of the preceding year.

*BDO Canada LLP*


Chartered Professional Accountants


September 18, 2018  
Victoria, British Columbia

**Surrounded By Cedar Child & Family Services Society**  
**Statement of Financial Position**

March 31	Operating Fund	Capital Fund	2018	2017
<b>Current Assets</b>				
Cash (Note 2)	\$ 1,287,861	\$ -	\$ 1,287,861	\$ 930,551
Restricted cash (Notes 2 and 6)	255,756	-	255,756	450,881
Accounts receivable	242,571	-	242,571	278,678
Prepaid expenses	5,979	-	5,979	-
	<u>1,792,167</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,792,167</u>	<u>1,660,110</u>
<b>Capital assets (Note 3)</b>	<u>-</u>	<u>65,861</u>	<u>65,861</u>	<u>72,172</u>
	<u>\$ 1,792,167</u>	<u>\$ 65,861</u>	<u>\$ 1,858,028</u>	<u>\$ 1,732,282</u>
<b>Current Liabilities</b>				
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities (Note 4)	\$ 86,445	\$ -	\$ 86,445	\$ 86,119
Deferred revenue (Note 5)	640,731	-	640,731	617,957
Fund held for child care (Note 6)	255,756	-	255,756	450,881
	<u>982,932</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>982,932</u>	<u>1,154,957</u>
<b>Net Assets</b>	<u>809,235</u>	<u>65,861</u>	<u>875,096</u>	<u>577,325</u>
	<u>\$ 1,792,167</u>	<u>\$ 65,861</u>	<u>\$ 1,858,028</u>	<u>\$ 1,732,282</u>

Approved on behalf of the Board

 Director

 Director

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements.

**Surrounded By Cedar Child & Family Services Society**  
**Statement of Operations**

<b>For the year ended March 31</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2017</b>
<b>Revenue</b>		
Grants	\$ 4,610,571	\$ 4,875,924
Donations	427,250	477,185
Interest	851	654
Other	168,259	154,626
	<u>5,206,931</u>	<u>5,508,389</u>
<b>Expenses</b>		
Advertising	806	1,335
Amortization	24,387	5,795
Child in care expenses	2,616,856	3,021,405
Insurance	5,509	5,286
Miscellaneous expense	-	4,474
Professional fees	156,473	165,653
Program expenses	365,356	314,591
Rent and services	164,491	164,298
Salaries and benefits	1,424,276	1,406,593
Security	369	498
Telephone	17,661	17,412
Training	7,470	6,171
Travel	59,087	45,545
Technical support	66,419	57,128
	<u>4,909,160</u>	<u>5,216,184</u>
<b>Excess of revenue over expenses</b>	<b>\$ 297,771</b>	<b>\$ 292,205</b>

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements.

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**Surrounded By Cedar Child & Family Services Society**  
Statement of Changes in Fund Balances

**For the year ended March 31**

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	Operating Fund		Capital Fund		2018	2017
<b>Balance, beginning of year</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>505,153</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>72,172</b>	<b>\$ 577,325</b>	<b>\$ 285,120</b>
<b>Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenses</b>		<b>322,158</b>		<b>(24,387)</b>	<b>297,771</b>	<b>292,205</b>
<b>Interfund transfers</b>		<b>(18,076)</b>		<b>18,076</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Balance, end of year</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>809,235</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>65,861</b>	<b>\$ 875,096</b>	<b>\$ 577,325</b>

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The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements.

**Surrounded By Cedar Child & Family Services Society**  
Statement of Cash Flows

For the year ended March 31	2018	2017
<b>Cash provided by (used in)</b>		
<b>Operating activities</b>		
Excess of revenues over expenses for the year	\$ 297,771	\$ 292,205
Adjustments for non-cash items		
Amortization	<u>24,387</u>	5,795
	322,158	298,000
Changes in non-cash working capital balances		
Restricted cash	195,125	329,276
Accounts receivable	36,107	(62,722)
Prepaid expenses and supplies	(5,979)	507
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	326	(82,768)
Deferred revenue	22,774	8,259
Funds held for child care	<u>(195,125)</u>	<u>(329,275)</u>
	<u>375,386</u>	<u>161,277</u>
<b>Investing activities</b>		
Capital asset purchases	<u>(18,076)</u>	<u>(4,382)</u>
<b>Increase in cash during the year</b>	357,310	156,895
<b>Cash, beginning of year</b>	<u>930,551</u>	<u>773,656</u>
<b>Cash, end of year</b>	<u>\$ 1,287,861</u>	<u>\$ 930,551</u>

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements.

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**Surrounded By Cedar Child & Family Services Society**  
**Notes to Financial Statements**

**March 31, 2018**

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**1. Significant Accounting Policies**

**(a) Purpose**

The mission of the Society, as adopted by the Board of Directors, is as follows:

The purpose of Surrounded by Cedar Child and Family Services Society is to provide child and family services (including statutory services delegated by the Province of British Columbia) to the urban aboriginal community in the Capital Regional District of British Columbia.

The Society is a registered charity and it is incorporated under the Societies Act of British Columbia. The Constitution of the Society does not permit the distribution of funds to the members. In the event of winding-up, the Society's assets shall be distributed to a recognized charitable organization in Canada with similar objectives or to one or more recognized charitable organizations in Canada.

The Society, was incorporated under the British Columbia Society Act and is in the process of transitioning to the new British Columbia Societies Act. As a not-for-profit organization, it is exempt from income taxes as a register charity under Section 149 of the Income Tax Act.

**(b) Basis of Accounting**

The financial statements have been prepared using Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations ("ASNPO").

**(c) Capital Assets**

Capital assets are recorded at cost less accumulated amortization and are classified according to their functional use. Cost includes all costs directly attributable to acquisition or construction of the property and equipment including transportation costs, design and engineering fees, legal fees and site preparation costs. Amortization is recorded on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful life of the capital assets commencing once put into use.

Estimated useful lives of property and equipment are as follows:

Computer equipment	3 years
Computer software	2 years
Leasehold improvements	5 years
Office equipment	5 years

**(d) Revenue Recognition**

The Society follows the deferral method of accounting for contributions. Restricted contributions are recognized as revenue in the year in which the related expenses are incurred. Unrestricted contributions are recognized as revenue when received or receivable if the amount to be received can be reasonably estimated and collection is reasonably assured.

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**Surrounded By Cedar Child & Family Services Society**  
**Notes to Financial Statements**

**March 31, 2018**

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**1. Significant Accounting Policies - Continued**

**(e) Financial Instruments**

Financial instruments include cash, restricted cash, accounts receivable, accounts payable and accrued liabilities and funds held for child care. Financial instruments are recorded at fair value when acquired or issued. All financial instruments are recorded at cost or amortized cost less impairment, if applicable. Financial assets are tested for impairment when changes in circumstances indicate the asset could be impaired. Transaction costs on the acquisition, sale or issue of financial instruments are expensed for those items remeasured at fair value at each statement of financial position date and capitalized to the financial instrument for those measured at amortized cost.

**(f) Use of Estimates**

The preparation of financial statements in accordance with ASNPO requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements, and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from management's best estimates as additional information becomes available in the future. Significant estimates included in these financial statements are the estimate of useful lives of capital assets in the calculation of amortization.

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**2. Cash and Restricted Cash**

The Society's bank accounts are held at one chartered bank. The accounts bear interest at rates of 0.05% to 0.10%.

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**3. Capital Assets**

	<b>March 31, 2018</b>		<b>March 31, 2017</b>	
	<b>Cost</b>	<b>Accumulated Amortization</b>	<b>Net Book Value</b>	<b>Net Book Value</b>
Art work	\$ 10,381	\$ -	\$ 10,381	\$ 9,884
Computer equipment	56,521	54,067	2,454	2,965
Computer software	7,202	7,202	-	707
Office equipment	203,569	181,720	21,849	25,219
Leasehold improvements	47,102	15,925	31,177	33,397
	<b>\$ 324,775</b>	<b>\$ 258,914</b>	<b>\$ 65,861</b>	<b>\$ 72,172</b>



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**Surrounded By Cedar Child & Family Services Society**  
**Notes to Financial Statements**

**March 31, 2018**

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**4. Accounts Payable and Accrued Liabilities**

Included in accounts payable and accrued liabilities are government remittances payable of \$5,069 (2017 - \$2,104).

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**5. Deferred Revenue**

	2017	Received	Recognized	2018
Deferred provincial grant	\$ 617,957	1,934,055	(1,911,281)	\$ 640,731

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**6. Fund Held for Child Care**

In April 2013, the Society entered into a contract with the Ministry of Children and Family Development of British Columbia (the "Ministry") whereby the Ministry will provide funding to the Society to run the Children in Care (CIC) Guardianship program. The funds provided are only to be used for the costs incurred in the program and any unspent funds are carried forward to be used for next fiscal year.

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**7. Economic Dependence**

The Society received 89% (2017 - 89%) of its revenue from Provincial Government Agencies and remains dependant upon funding from the Provincial Government.

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**8. Commitments**

The Society has entered into a lease with a third party for premises, which expires in September 2023. The minimum annual lease payments, excluding property taxes and operating costs, are as follows:

Year	Amount
2019	\$81,975
2020	83,496
2021	85,017
2022	86,962
2023	88,060
Thereafter	17,413
	<u>\$ 442,923</u>

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**Surrounded By Cedar Child & Family Services Society**  
**Notes to Financial Statements**

**March 31, 2018**

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**9. Financial Instrument Risks**

The Society through its financial assets and liabilities, is exposed to various risks. The following analysis provides a measurement of those risks at March 31, 2018. There have not been any changes in these risks from the prior year.

(a) Credit Risk

Credit risk is the risk that Society will incur a loss due to the failure by its debtors to meet their contractual obligations. Financial instruments that potentially subject the Society to significant concentrations of credit risk consist primarily of cash and accounts receivable.

Bad debts for the past five years have been minimal and the allowance for doubtful accounts is \$nil at March 31, 2018 and 2017. At March 31, 2018, there were no accounts receivables outstanding more than 90 days. The maximum amount of credit risk exposure is limited to the carrying amount of the balances in the financial statements.

(b) Liquidity Risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Society will not be able to meet its obligations as they fall due. The Society attempts to maintain adequate levels of working capital to ensure all of its obligations can be met when they fall due.

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**10. Remuneration of Directors, Employees and Contractors**

On November 28, 2016 the Society Act (BC) was repealed and replaced with the Societies Act (BC) ("New Act"). The New Act requires that all Societies transition to the New Act before November 28, 2018. The Society expects to complete the transition process during the fiscal year ended March 31, 2019.

Even though this transition has not been completed, the New Act requires that the Society disclose the total remuneration paid to the Directors, for either being a director or for acting in another capacity, as well as the total number of employees or contractors with annual remuneration equal to or greater than \$75,000 and the aggregate remuneration of those employees/contractors. During the fiscal period ended March 31, 2018 there was no remuneration paid to the directors of the Society. A total of 3 (2017 - 3) employees/contractors received remuneration in excess of \$75,000 which resulted in an aggregate expenditure of \$271,851 (2017 - \$258,076).



**Notes**