



VICTORIA CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION AND
COUNSELLING CENTRE

ANNUAL REPORT 2017-2018

MARY MANNING
CENTRE RESPONDS
TO CHILDREN, YOUTH
AND FAMILIES AFFECTED
BY SEXUAL ABUSE AND
OTHER TRAUMA, BY
PROVIDING VICTIM SERVICES,
COUNSELLING, PREVENTION AND
EDUCATION WITHIN THE GREATER
VICTORIA COMMUNITY, AND
CONSULTATION THROUGHOUT THE
PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Past

Board of Directors



Kristi Dupuis, Co-Chair
Allen York, Co-Chair
Samuel Cameron, Vice Chair & Secretary
Meghan Oberg, Treasurer
Laura Vye
Tanya Pohl
Rishi Sehgal
Niki Hodgkinson
Graeme Gass

Staff



Sandra Bryce, *Executive Director*
Judith Wright, *Clinical Coordinator*

Carlie Green, Fiona Harmon, Carlin Son, Gaylene Turner, Kelly Montgomery, Ken Seidman, Mattie Walker, Shawna Paul-Herlinveaux, Susan Payne, Joanna Morrison, Charlotte King-Harris, Angela Scott.

Student Interns



Ashley Alexandre, Parker Croshaw, Kayleigh Erasmus

Present

Board of Directors



Samuel Cameron, Co-Chair
Melanie Duggan, Co-Chair
Darrell Underwood, Secretary
Meghan Oberg, Treasurer
Tanya Pohl
Eden Levinson
Deborah Brienzi
Graeme Gass
Graeme Leblanc

Staff



Sandra Bryce, *Executive Director*
Shawna Herlinveaux, *Manager of Practice*

Carlie Green, Fiona Harmon,, Gaylene Turner, Kelly Montgomery, Ken Seidman, Mattie Walker, Susan Payne, Angela Scott, Brenden Taylor, Renu Bawa, Parker Croshaw, Heather Duncan

Student Intern



Inka Hart

REPORT FROM THE CO-CHAIR OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

This past year has continued to be busy for the Victoria Child Abuse Prevention and Counselling Centre. It has been my pleasure to take on the role of Co-Chair of the Board along with our other Co-Chair, Samuel Cameron.

This has been a year of progressive change for VCAPCC. We have been able to restructure adding more staff positions in order to further serve the families in our community. We have also been very pleased to welcome the following new Board members: Darrell Underwood from Saanich Police Department; Dr. Deborah Brienz, pediatrician; Eden Levinson, youth representative; and Graeme Leblanc from the Victoria Police Department.

We also had a number of Board members who were no longer able to continue on in their current roles for a variety of reasons. We want to give a special thanks to each of these individuals for their dedicated service to the Board in previous years: Kristi Ross from the Victoria Police Department; Laura Vye from the Saanich Police Department; Allen York, Counselor; Niki Hodgkinson from the Saanich Police Department; and Rishi Segal, Canadian Armed Forces. We very much appreciate your years of commitment to this Board!

Looking back over the past year, we have experienced moments of both victory and tragedy. We feel fortunate that we are able to assist more children as our agency grows. However, despite best efforts, we have also experienced loss and have grieved with our community during these times. We are passionate about protecting children and will continue to do the best we can to raise awareness and reach out to those in need of our services.

It is an honour and a privilege to serve as the Co-Chair of the VCAPCC Board. I look forward to serving with my colleagues on the Board in 2018 and continuing to support the staff of VCAPCC to make a positive difference in the lives of children, youth and families.

Kind regards,

Melanie Duggan

“Safety and security don’t just happen, they are the result of collective consensus and public investment. We owe our children, the most vulnerable citizens in our society, a life free of violence and fear.”

-Nelson Mandela

REPORT FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

"Destiny is not a matter of chance; it is a matter of choice. It is not a thing to be waited for, it is a thing to be achieved."

-William Jennings Bryan

As always, it is a challenge to find funding for children whose needed services are not funded provincially, and this year we have overcome this challenge; another positive change. We were approved for three, 3 year funding cycles, and, after meeting with the Minister on several occasions, we were granted additional funding.

Change has been the theme this year, and we have embraced it and ran with it, all with the vision of better serving our clients and community. New positions were created, such as the CYAC Manager, filled by Mattie Walker, Manager of Practice, filled by Shawna Herlinvueax, Indigenous Child and Family Therapist position, filled by Angela Scott, and we created a brand new intake process and position of Intake Counsellor, filled by Brenden Taylor. As always, we recognize the generosity shown by our interns, Ashley Alexandre, Parker Croshaw (who is now a hired employee) and Kayleigh Erasmus. Interns provide us, not only with invaluable support, making it possible to manage our waitlist for services, but we also learn so much from them and they from us. Most importantly, they bring fresh, new, innovative energy and ideas to the table. An extra special mention and thank-you to Judith Wright, former Clinical Counsellor, who left our agency this April 2018, after providing service for over 28 years. I have much gratitude for the Board of Directors, staff and society members, as well as our funders and personal donations, for all the dedication, energy, and loyalty you provide to the agency. A special thank-you to our former Office Manager in Finances, Fiona Harmon, for her dedication and efforts, as well as Carlie Green, who will be leaving the agency at the end of this year to pursue another career path. I would also like to welcome Heather Duncan, our new Administrative Assistant. Thank-you.

In our efforts to increase our community profile, we welcomed Honorable Katrine Conroy to our office early December 2017, for a visit, to meet our staff, and to ask her about her visions for the future of child welfare. I have also, with the support of other staff and board members, attended several conferences, including Empowering Partnerships Conference in April 2017, Vancouver Conference in May 2017, Washington Conference in June 2017, and The Canadian Domestic Homicide Prevention Conference in October 2017. I also met with several Okanagan Agencies, with the support from Indigenous Child and Family Therapist Angela Scott.

Change is like a circle, a never-ending circuit of growth and movement, which enlightens and brings hope to the challenges we encounter in life.

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed, citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has."

-Margaret Mead

Respectfully submitted,
Sandra Bryce, Executive Director

REPORT FROM THE TREASURER

I would like to sincerely thank our members and stakeholders for their continued support of VCAPCC. I am happy to report that we have maintained fiscal stability in the 2017/2018 year. Our improved financial stability was realized due to efforts to diversify our revenue sources and to focus efforts on longer cycle grant proposals.

It is important to acknowledge the continued support of the provincial and federal governments towards the VCAPCC's core programming and operations. In addition to this support, the VCAPCC has continued to seek out annual and longer term grants and donations in order to cover gaps in government funding and children's eligibility for that funding. We are deeply thankful to the organizations and individuals who have generously donated to the VCAPCC and for the grants received and approved in the past year. While we are conscious of continued risk factors, such as the rising costs of living, stringent government funding, and the increased need for services in the outer regions of Greater Victoria, we are pleased with the approval of some longer term grants that will aid the agency in continued fiscal stability into the coming year.

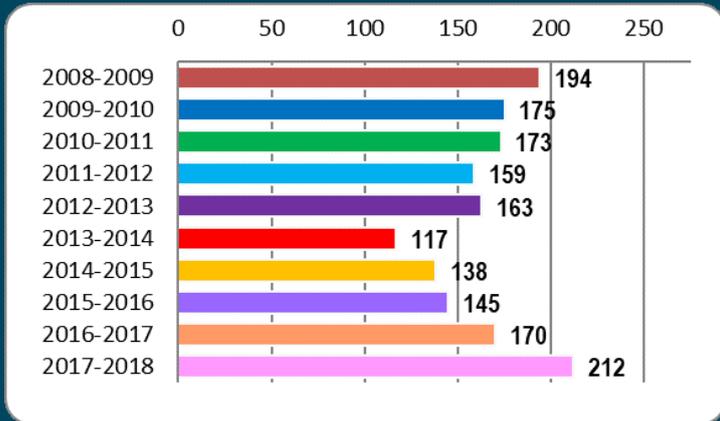
I would like to thank David Levinson and Rajvir Gill of D.A. Levinson and Associates Inc. for their accounting services and Colin Sargent for his review engagement services. I would also like to express sincere thanks to Sandra Bryce, the Executive Director, for her commitment to the VCAPCC's financial security and her efforts to direct the agency towards longer term fiscal stability.

Respectfully submitted,
Meghan Oberg, Treasurer

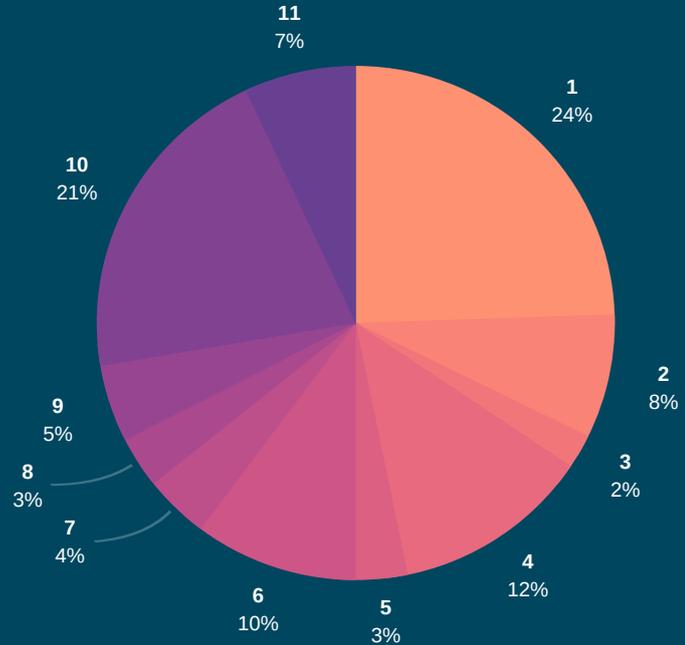
Referrals

Referrals

In 2017-2018, the agency received 212 referrals, compared to the previous year of 170.



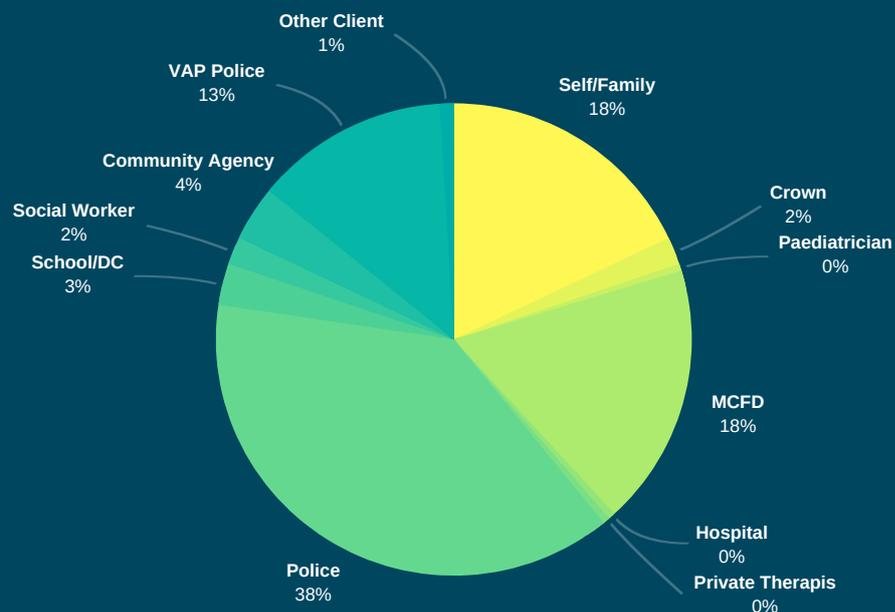
Reason for Referral



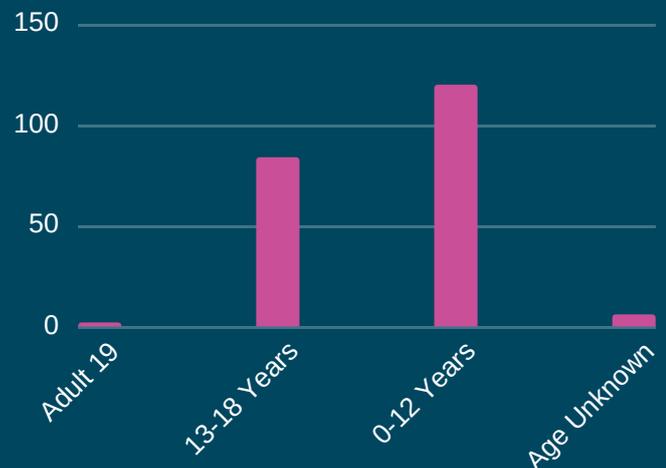
GENDER OF NEW CLIENTS
 FEMALE: 132
 MALE: 76
 DON'T IDENTIFY AS EITHER: 2
 TRANSGENDER MALE: 2

- 1- Sexual Abuse
- 2- Suspected Sexual Abuse
- 3- Sexual Behaviour Problems
- 4- Physical Abuse
- 5- Emotional Abuse
- 6- Witnessing Family Violence
- 7- Neglect
- 8- Inappropriate Behaviours/ Safety Skills
- 9- Court Support
- 10- Police Accompaniment
- 11- Other Trauma

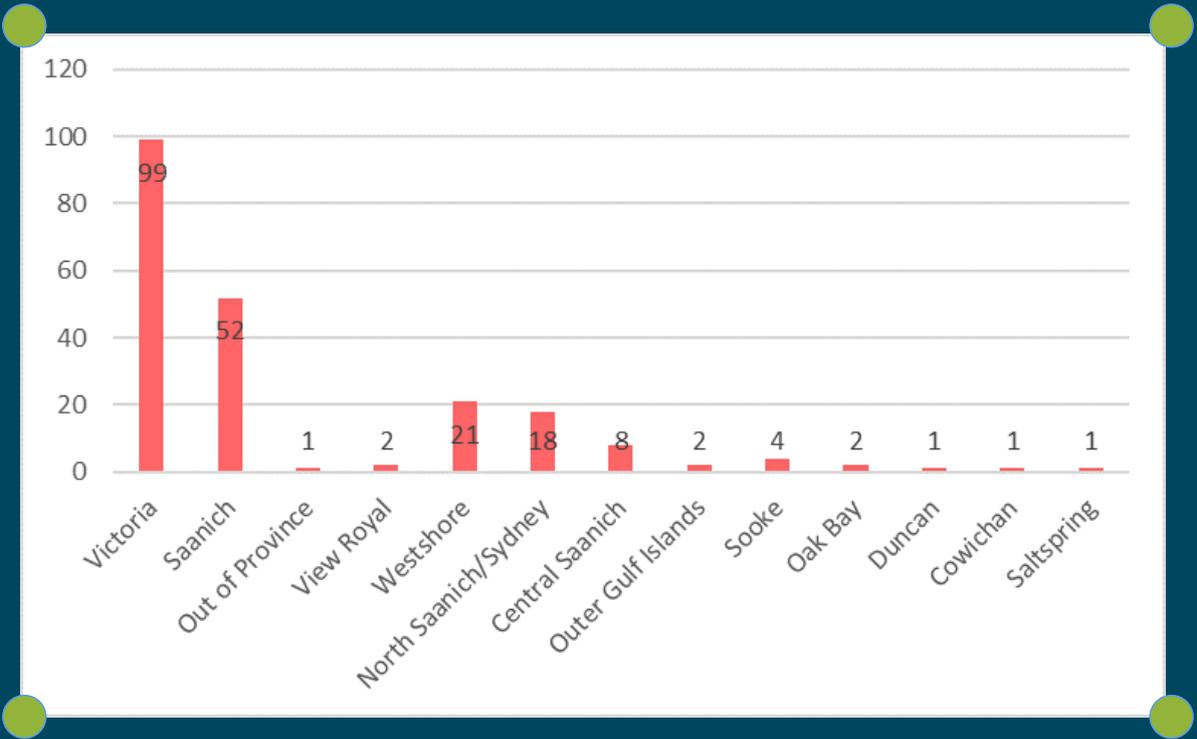
Referral Source



Referral By Age

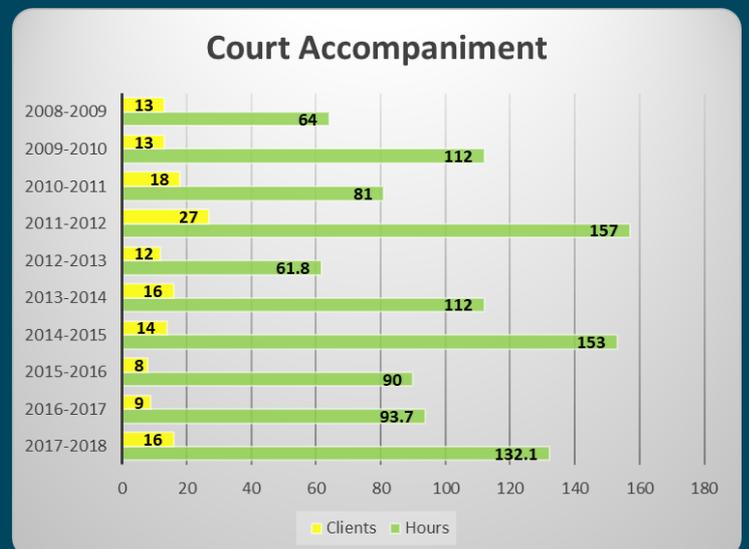


Client Location at Intake



Victim Services

Our intake and victim service team handles all of the referrals to VCAPCC. Our statistical report includes the following charts which illustrate the number of clients and hours of service provided in court preparation, and court accompaniment.



Child and Youth Advocacy Centre

Over the past year, the Victoria Child and Youth Advocacy Centre (CYAC) has continued to grow and expand our capacity to serve children and youth in the Greater Victoria Area through our community partnerships and ongoing collaboration with our multi-disciplinary team (MDT).

The fall of 2017 brought many opportunities for training. In October 2017, our MDT hosted a training for community partners that focused on building relationships, the CYAC model, interviewing approaches, and trauma-informed practice. After the success and interest from this training, our MDT is already beginning to plan a second training event for 2019 that will focus on specialized, usable skills and information to apply in cases of child abuse. Our Victim Services team presented at the Ending Violence Association's Annual Training Forum in Richmond, BC to professionals from across the province on collaborative care through a CYAC model. Throughout the past year, our Victim Services team provided training to child protection workers, clinicians, and students. The team continues to work with new police members and MCFD child protection workers to provide information about collaborating through the CYAC model.

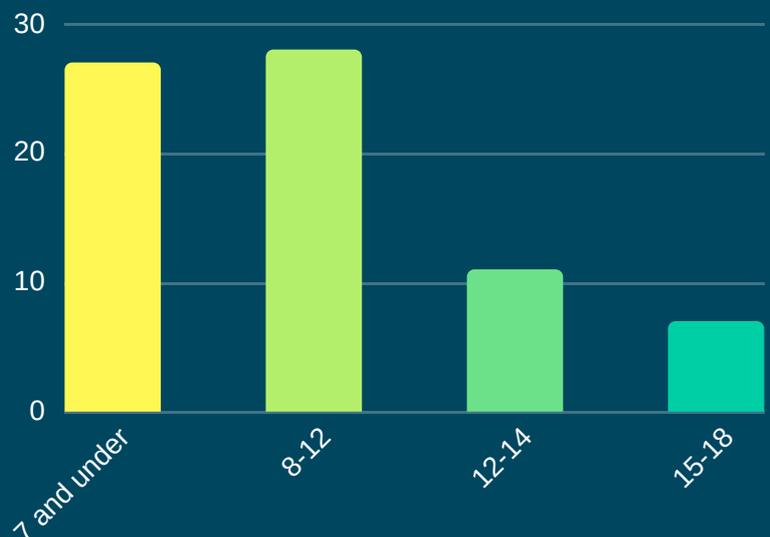
The Victoria CYAC celebrated its second year of operations in February 2018, with over 150 child interviews occurring since its opening in 2016. The centre facilitated 73 child interviews in our last fiscal year (April 1st, 2017- March 31st, 2018) and supported over 150 individuals from 59 families related to interviews conducted. The vast majority of interviews (75%) involved children 12 years old and under.

Our team has grown, with the new position of Child and Youth Advocacy Centre manager starting in August 2018. Mattie Walker has taken on this position and will be responsible for the operations, leading the MDT, training, and continued growth of the CYAC as we look to expand our services and capacity. Our team welcomed two new victim service workers, Renu Bawa and Priscilla Healy, and saw Angela Scott take on a new position at the agency as an Indigenous Child and Family Therapist and program developer. Kelly Montgomery is continuing in her role on the Victim Services team. Our MDT continues to grow and our monthly team meetings have become the largest we have seen since opening. Our meetings provide us the opportunity to connect across disciplines regarding cases, new agency updates, community resources, and to support each other in the work that we do.

Despite the successes and growth of the centre over the past year, the CYAC continues to lack stabilized long-term funding. With support from grants and donors, the CYAC has been able to plan for 3 years of operations, but without stable funding the future of the centre and the CYAC model is unclear. With plans to expand our services to provide satellite centres in other communities on the island, we hope to see stable, long-term funding and support from the Provincial Government and community partners as we move into the next year so that we can continue to best support the children and youth of our communities.

Respectfully Submitted,
Mattie Walker, CYAC Manager

Age At Time Of Interview

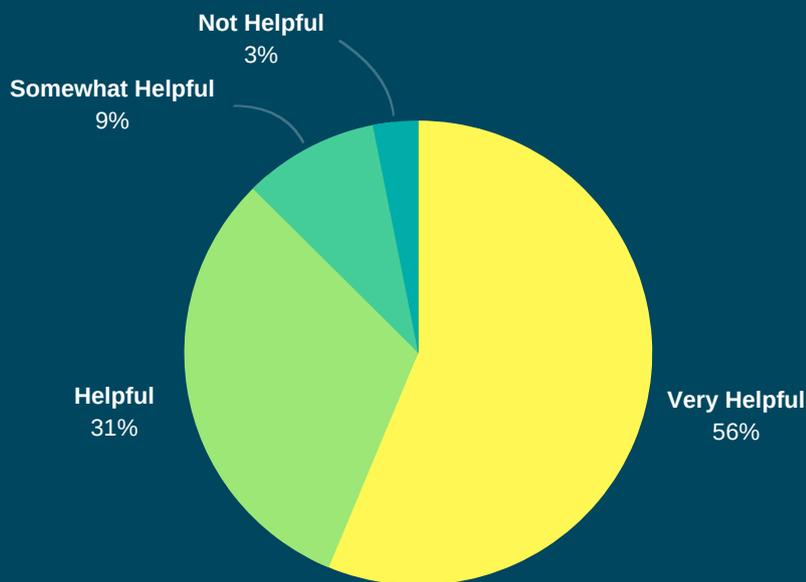


- There were 76 referrals to the CYAC for interviews and/or support services
- 73 interviews at the CYAC were completed
- Over 150 individuals from 59 different families were supported by Victim Services and connected with resources.

Program Outcomes

VCAPCC is committed to providing the very best services possible to children, youth and parents/caregivers. Feedback forms returned by clients/parents/caregivers provide invaluable feedback about our services. This past fiscal year we received 32 forms; 18 (7 clients/11 parents) found the service very helpful, 10 (6 clients/4 parents) found it helpful, 3 (2 clients/1 parents) found the service somewhat helpful, 1 (1 client/0 parents) found the service not helpful.

Client Satisfaction



Discharge Reason



Victoria Child Abuse Prevention and Counselling Centre Treatment Philosophy

- Every individual is unique and worthwhile and has the capacity to change.
- Child abuse affects the whole person and recovery or healing requires addressing all parts of the person including; psychological, physical and spiritual
- Child abuse affects the family and significant others of the person who has experienced abuse and treatment must address the needs of the family and others significant to the individual.
- Child abuse affects the whole of society; the treatment of child abuse is a shared community responsibility.
- Every individual has the right to heal or recover from the trauma of child abuse regardless personal beliefs and characteristics in accordance with the Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

Treatment Principles

VCAPCC strives to tailor its treatment program to be consistent with the following principles:

- The goal and primary objective of all interventions are to promote and facilitate the emotional, physical and social well-being of the family and child. This objective takes precedence over any investigative or other objective.
- The agency recognizes the complexity of issues involved in child abuse and that in many instances abuse is inter-related with other issues. Accordingly, treatment must be provided by qualified, professional counsellors with broad experience in counselling and therapy and specialized skills related to treating child sexual abuse.
- Clients are accepted in a non-judgemental manner.
- The clinical team values the contribution of a number of different therapeutic perspectives in the areas of child abuse. Different perspectives and techniques are used in accordance with the assessed needs of the client.

● Provincial/Federal Funding and Grants ●

Ministry of Children and Family Development, Ministry of Public Safety & Solicitor General, Department of Justice, Norgaard Foundation, BC Gaming Grant, Provincial Employees Community Services Fund, Victoria Foundation, Vancouver Foundation, Civil Forfeiture, and the City of Victoria.

● Organization/Group Donations ●

100 Women Who Care Victoria, Canadian Forces Ammunition Depot, Canadian War Brides and Families, Deloitte, Institute of Ocean Sciences, Greater Victoria Public Library, Odd Fellows, Sierra Systems Group Inc, St. Aidan's United Church, United Way

● Individual Donours ●

Anonymous, Bud Bond, Beverley Brookman, Sandra Bryce, Sarah Cotton, James and Mary Croll, Michael Graeme, Mary Anne Griffin, Joan Hester, Ann Jackson, Terri Kirillo, Brianne Macbeth, Mel McDonald, Sheilagh McIvor, Louise Mercer, Caroline Mitchell, Joan Moore, Catherine Morin, Diana Nicholson, Laura Petrie, Nicole Potvin, John and Maureen Quested, Cheryl Rinehart, Gordon and Grace Rogers, Ellenor Schneider, Faith Shields, Patti Sullivan, Lesley Valour, and Judith Wright.

● Special Thanks ●

The Board and Staff thank our volunteers at the Garth Homer Society for their playroom cleaning services, David Rowson for his IT contributions as well as his time and energy spent at the CYAC, and consultant Patti Sullivan for her hard work and contributions to the agency.

