



Serving Shelters, Transforming Lives.

2018-2019



ACWS
Alberta Council of
Women's Shelters

ANNUAL REPORT

Traditional Land Acknowledgment

ACWS acknowledges the traditional lands upon which we live, work, and play. We recognize that all Albertans are Treaty people and have a responsibility to understand our history so that we can honor the past, be aware of the present, and create a just and caring future. ACWS celebrates and values the resiliency, successes, and teachings that Alberta's Indigenous people have shown us, as well as the unique contributions of every Albertan.

The ACWS office is located on Treaty 6 land, which is the traditional territory of the Plains Cree and an ancient gathering place of many Indigenous peoples for thousands of years. These lands have also been home to and a central trading place of the Blackfoot, Nakota, Assiniboine, Dene, and the Métis people of western Canada.

We honour the courage and strength of Indigenous women. We honor them as life givers and care givers as we honor and learn from their continuing achievements, their consistent strength, and their remarkable endurance.

Our members serve all nations and all peoples; they are located on Treaty 6, 7 and 8 lands across this province which include the six Metis regions of Alberta.

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Brenda Rebman, President

Brittany Johnson, Vice President

Jeanette Sandstra, Secretary

Pamela Wicks, Treasurer

Patricia Garrett, Director

Lyla Allan, Director

Gaye Warthe, Director

Michele Taylor, Director

Brian Simpson, Public Director

Kelly-Ann Fenney, Public Director

Partial term:

Sherrie Botten, Director
Served in 2018

Wanda McGinnis, Director
Appointed in 2019

Beryl Willier, Director
Served in 2018



Executive Director: **Jan Reimer**

Director of Programs: **Carolyn Goard / Ian Wheeliker**

Finance Administrator & Office Co-ordinator: **Jennifer Ness**

Administrative Support: **Jade Gelmici / Husna Khaidir**

Communications and Partnerships Advisor: **Eoin Murray**

Communications Support: **Sarah Dawson / Lorelle Whittingham**

Leading Change Program Developer: **Christie Lavan**

Leading Change Community Developer: **Tuval Dinner Nafshi**

Logistic Assistant & Leading Change Support: **Lisa Klemp / Caitlin Hart**

Training and Program Development Advisor: **Catie Hickman**

Data and Project Advisor: **Cat VanWielingen / Amy Mercure**

Data and Member Support: **Janine Isaac**

Indigenous Relations and Programs Co-ordinator: **Mary McDermott / Roxane Blood**

We were also helped by multiple contractors, consultants and interns. Thank you to all of them for their contributions.



This past fiscal year was one of the most exciting in ACWS history. Not since the first World Conference of Women's Shelters in Edmonton has the organization engaged on such a significant series of undertakings. When we reflect on the year it is remarkable the scale of the ambition and the impact of the work.

The largest event of the year, of course, was our initiative to host the first violence prevention conference in Western Canada. 250 Violence prevention practitioners gathered with Dr. Michael Flood from Australia and actor and activist Terry Crews to discuss ways of changing our culture to put an end to gender-based violence. 1,100 people gathered in the Edmonton Convention Centre to hear Terry Crews' keynote address. This is a remarkable feat when only a few years ago it would seem unimaginable to have so many people gather to focus their energy on ending domestic violence.

It is a testament to the unwavering day to day efforts of staff in ACWS and in our member shelters throughout the province. The impact of that work was evident in a range of other highlights throughout the year: the visit of Dr. Jacquelyn Campbell, the launch of the Safety from Domestic Violence Inventory of Promising Practices, the holding of our second Shelter Outcomes Conference with Dr. Steve Patty, the launch of our new Children's Curriculum, expanded focus on DV in Your Workplace, and our latest 'Men's Attitudes' survey.

All of this was underpinned by our continued sophistication in gathering and utilizing data. The release of ACWS provincial three year aggregate data illustrated the impact of the \$15m investment in shelters in 2015. It showed the ongoing scale of the problem to be surmounted: today, women entering shelter score higher on the Danger Assessment than at any other point of assessment in the past seven years.

Our ability to collect data and demonstrate impact across all programs was instrumental in securing a shift in our provincial funding. Using this data we were able to demonstrate the need to move from our previous project-based grant system to a single annual operational grant providing increased financial sustainability, predictability and better planning.

At the Board level ACWS continues to focus on the financial and organizational future of the organization. The board is taking on an enhanced role in fund development and to in playing an active part in seeking to grow the public funding commitment.

Lyla Allen, Kelly Ann Fenney and Gaye Warthe will be ending their terms as directors. We are so very grateful to them for their dedication and hard work on behalf of ACWS. They can depart the Board knowing they left the organization with stronger financial supports, human resources and governance structure. For that they should be very proud.

Yours sincerely,

Brenda Rebman
President

Jan Reimer
Executive Director

Thank You

Government Funders:

Alberta Community and Social Services
Alberta Culture, Multiculturalism and Status of Women
Alberta Labour
Women and Gender Equality Canada
Justice Canada

Breakfast with the Guys/ Grey Cup Sponsors:

CN Rail
Global Edmonton

Leading Change Summit Sponsors:

Health Sciences Association of Alberta
Unifor
Alberta Federation of Labour
Edmonton Community Foundation
United Nurses of Alberta
Alberta Union of Provincial Employees
Hi Signs
Bonton Bakery
FMAV
Global Edmonton
Avenue Magazine

Community & Corporate Supporters

The Gifts of Hope Committee
Tiara Golf Classic
Blackjacks Roadhouse
Brownlee LLP

We also have a dedicated group of monthly and individual donors.
Thank you to each of you.





ACWS
Alberta Council of
Women's Shelters

Committee Reports





Board Governance Report

The key activity of the Board Governance Committee was to review policies recommended by the Indigenous Relations Advisory Committee and determine if any other policy changes were required. As part of the review, the Committee recommended, and the board accepted, that our foundational policies be amended to include a recognition that ACWS has a role to play both in guiding and supporting our own staff and board, as well as our members, in this challenging and important journey of reconciliation.

We also reinforced our board Code of Conduct to stress that discrimination based on race, religious belief, color, gender identity, mental or physical disability, marital status, ancestry, age, place of origin, family status, source of income or sexual orientation will not be tolerated.

The principles, values and action plan developed in concert with on-reserve members made a commitment that three members of the ACWS board be Indigenous. The Board Governance Committee reviewed the bylaws to address the loss of On-Reserve members (whose board membership is guaranteed in our bylaws.) The committee requested legal advice with respect to a bylaw wording change, which is being presented at the 2019 AGM. We also began a review of the associated policy changes so that members will have a full picture of how the proposed changes will be implemented.

The Board Governance Committee worked with staff on the development of a defined role for board members in fundraising. This work is ongoing. To support this initiative the Board participated in a session with an external fundraising expert. The Board Governance Committee made changes to Board policies related to the role of board members to ensure support for fund development is an ongoing priority for board members.

I would like to thank committee members Jeanette Sandstra, Lyla Allan, and Michele Taylor for their significant contributions to the work of the committee.

Submitted by:
Kelly Ann Fenny
Chair, Board Governance Committee



Treasurer's Report

Over the last fiscal year, the Finance, Audit and Risk Management (FARM) Committee continued to support the Board in fulfilling our obligations and responsibilities relating to financial stewardship, oversight and risk management. The committee reviewed and recommended the budget, our interim and annual financial statements, our annual investment update, and updated board policies.

This year we reviewed our expense claim, signing authority, and purchasing policies. We also developed a long term funding strategy for our operational costs for board review, recognizing that our three year funding was coming to an end in March 2019. This strategy included building up our reserves and placing a major focus on fundraising and donations revenue. A special session on the board's role in fundraising was recommended.

As in prior years, the ACWS board has been working to strengthen our ongoing financial health by making contributions to the Stabilization Fund to build the necessary reserves to meet our goal of ensuring there are four months basic operating funds in case of an emergency, revenue shortfalls or changes in government programs. We have also continued to contribute to the Equipment Reserve and Moving/Renovation Reserve to address future office space requirements and created a Social Enterprise Fund for earned revenue.

The Leading Change Summit held in February 2019 was both a financial risk and opportunity. Sponsors came on board for both the Summit and an 'Evening with Terry Crews'. This was ACWS's inaugural primary prevention-focused conference on ending gender-based violence and abuse, one we hope to continue in future years. We also received a boost in Sponsorship dollars as part of our Safest Grey Cup ever initiative in Edmonton last November.

The Outcomes Conference was also held in the 2018-2019 year which saw shelter leaders join in and enhance our organizational and collective capacity with regards to evaluation and measuring impact. This conference was made possible by way of the three-year funding received from the Alberta Government in 2016.



Based on the 2017-2018 AGM motion that ACWS engage with a new auditing firm, Metrix Group LLP conducted their audit of the 2018-2019 Financial Statements. These statements were reviewed during the June 3, 2019 FARM Committee meeting and approved by the ACWS Board at the June 10, 2019 meeting. Highlights include:

- Event revenue exceeded the budgeted amount by \$29,046 and investment income by \$11,609
- We have ended the year with a surplus of \$366,629. \$100,000 has been added to the Stabilization Reserve; \$5,000 to the Moving/Renovation Reserve; \$5,000 to the Equipment Reserve; \$72,399 to the Conference Legacy fund and \$66,239 to the Social Enterprise Fund.

ACWS has been successful in several new grant applications for the current fiscal year that will continue to build on the foundation of providing support to our members, frontline training/education and providing primary prevention programs across the Province.

Finally, I would like to express a special note of gratitude to my fellow FARM Committee members: Gaye Warthe, Michele Taylor and former Board Member, Sherrie Botten for their tremendous work during the past fiscal year.

Submitted by:
Pamela Wicks
Board Treasurer, Chair, Finance, Audit and Risk Management Committee



Social, Legal and Ethics Report

With both a provincial and federal election in the offing, the Social, Legal and Ethics Committee (SLEC) looked at the issues identified through the shelter directors networking meetings to develop key messages for the provincial and federal elections. These included:

- The challenge of recruiting and retaining staff without a wage increase since 2014.
- The impact upon shelters given changes to employment standards.
- The need for a better overall justice response, including the need for significant improvement in Family Court and its response to domestic violence.
- Child intervention approaches need to be updated; from a shelter perspective the child welfare system often neglects shelter expertise, the need for shelters to prioritize the safety of women (and by extension of their children) resulting in re-traumatization and further negative outcomes for women and children.

Based on the above messages, staff developed a three-point plan based on member knowledge, research and the needs of abused women, children and seniors:

1. Remove Systemic Barriers Facing Women Experiencing Violence
2. Transform Outcomes for Women Through Shelter Investment.
3. Make Alberta a Model Province for Domestic Violence Response and Prevention.

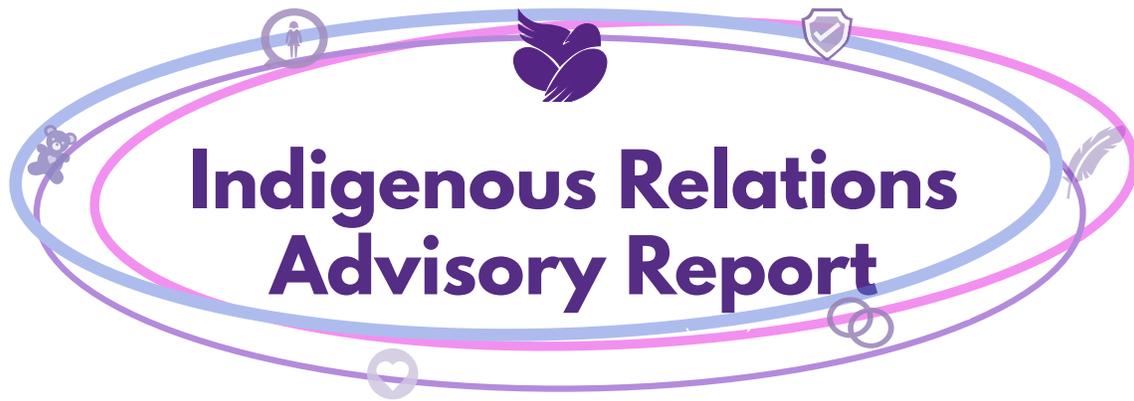
The plan with background information and milestones was presented to all provincial political parties leading up to the spring provincial election, with responses requested.

The SLEC committee is working on the development of an ethical research model. The focus is on developing guidelines for approving our own research and possible research with partners. The committee will work with Policy Wise to create a decision-making tree that can be used to guide the approval processes and allow us to expedite them.

The Committee is also looking at models for ethical frameworks that reflect OCAP principles. ACWS hoping to work with partners at Blue Quills University and Red Crow College to inform the development of a model.

I would like to thank committee members Pat Garrett and Brittany Johnson for their significant contributions to the work of the committee.

Submitted by:
Gaye Warthe
Chair, Social Legal and Ethics Committee



Indigenous Relations Advisory Report

This fiscal year, the Indigenous Relations Advisory Committee focused on policy changes.

The first task was to look at policy change recommendations made by former board member Lewis Cardinal to align board policies with the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action and the Articles from United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. This also included more inclusive wording such as changing “Aboriginal” to “Indigenous,” and culturally-appropriate conflict resolution options and processes. Some recommendations were not implemented as written, as they would need to be considered at a different level of governance, however, these suggestions were discussed and passed on where appropriate and/or wording was changed in order to meet needs and bylaw requirements.

The Committee worked on bylaw change recommendations in order to ensure flexibility and the ability to meet quorum while best serving On-Reserve and off reserve Indigenous women and girls. Current bylaws dedicate two seats on the board to the On-Reserve shelters, and one public member who must be Aboriginal. During this last year, we had but On-Reserve shelter member and with staffing and board changes we have not been able to fill the two vacant position on-reserve positions.

We look forward to drafting a Memorandum of Understanding suggested by our former members On-Reserve when they are ready to do so. The Committee discussed various options with respect to implementing the Action Plan and methods to encourage Indigenous representation and consultation to ACWS going forward.

As part of supporting Indigenous women and girls, the Committee discussed ways to partner with outside Indigenous organizations. The Committee agreed that we need to honour Indigenous women who have done outstanding work in addressing violence against Indigenous women. A multipronged approach is recommended that looks at connecting to awards that already have structures in place as well as potentially considering our own award for those who have worked in building relationships between Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities. Community consultation needs to occur as outlined above prior to determining whether we should develop our own award.

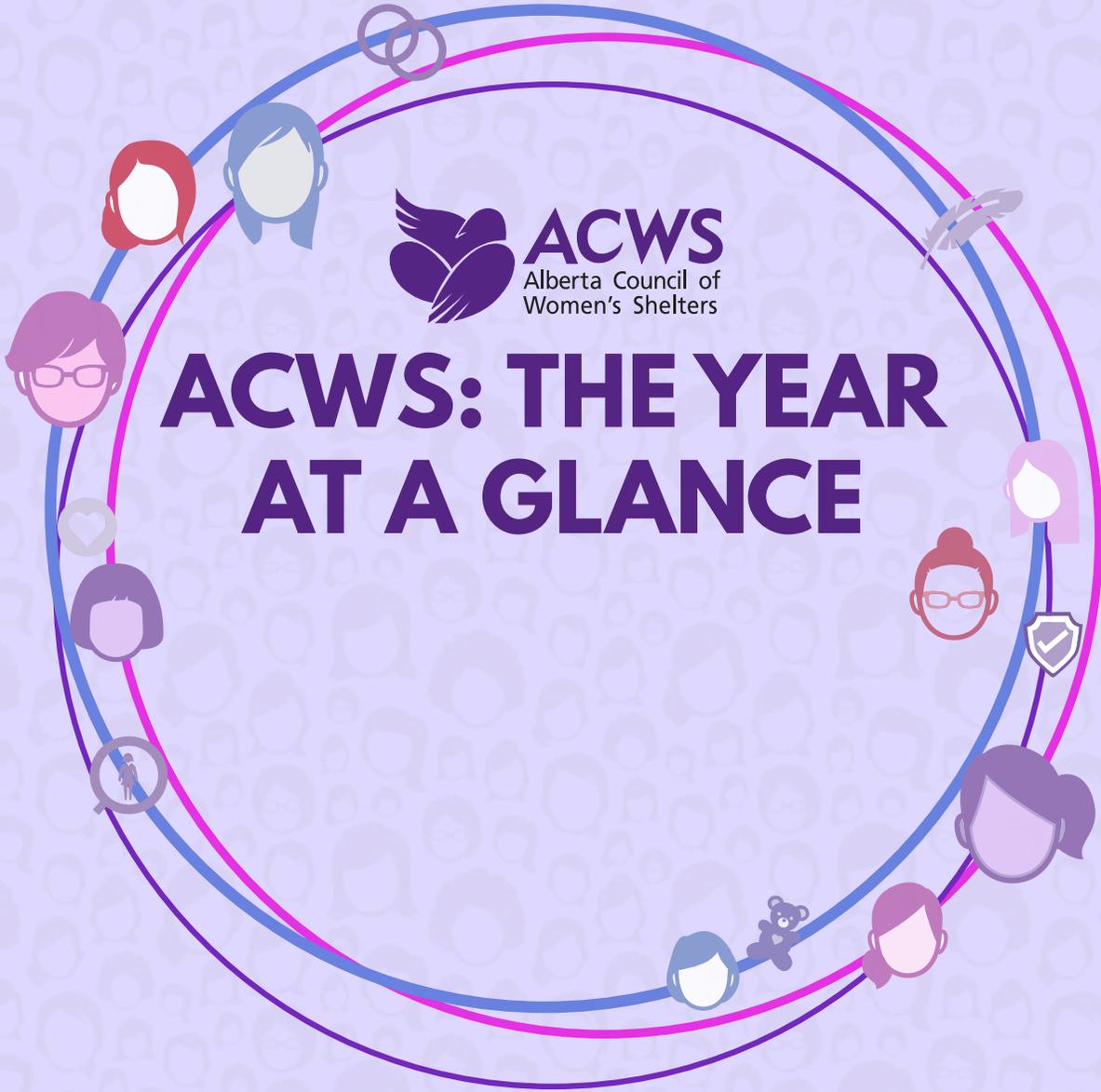
Finally, the Committee reviewed the Statement of Principles, Values, and Commitments to Actions for Indigenous Women, Girls, and Their Families in order to ensure ongoing relationship with On-Reserve shelters, and all shelters in Alberta that serve Indigenous women, girls, and their families.

I would like to thank committee members Brian Simpson and Dennis Callihoo for their significant contributions to the work of the committee.

Submitted by:
Brittany Johnson
Chair, Indigenous Relations Advisory Committee



ACWS: THE YEAR AT A GLANCE



2018 ACWS Awards



Each year ACWS celebrates the work of shelter staff and volunteers who make a tremendous difference to the lives of women, children and seniors. In 2018 we celebrated the work of Marilyn Johnston from Camrose Shelter, winner of the Joie Dery Award and Shelly Smith-Tunke of Odyssey House shelter, winner of the Volunteer Award. We thank both for their extraordinary efforts.

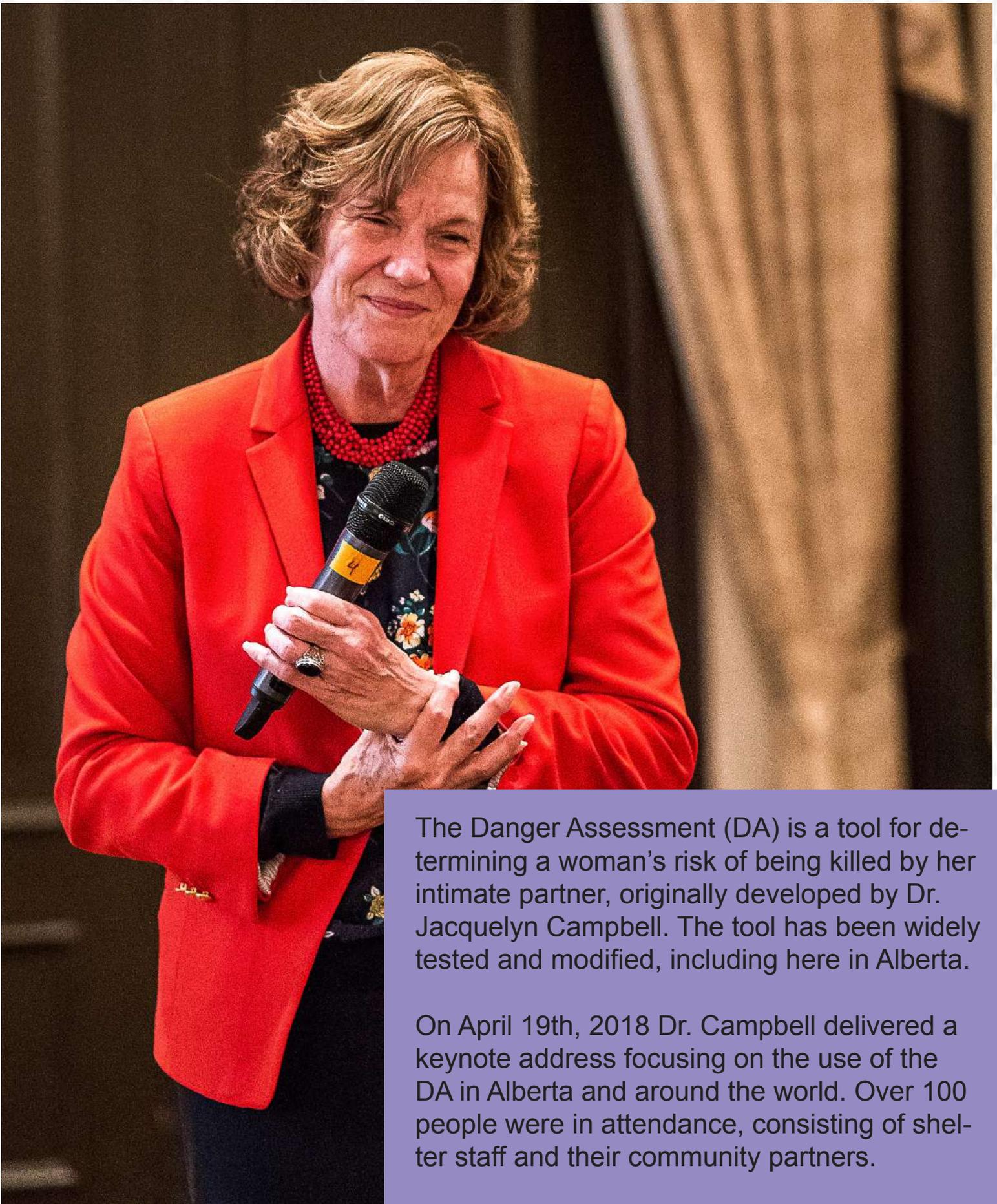
DA Training with Dr. Jacquelyn Campbell

Dr. Jacquelyn Campbell is the Anna D. Wolf Chair in Johns Hopkins University. She is a renowned leader in research and advocacy on domestic violence who has worked with ACWS for more than a decade. Dr. Campbell has authored or co-authored more than 230 publications and seven books on violence and health outcomes.



There's always a scarcity of resources to support the work that shelters do and to support more collaboration with the health-care system.

-Dr. Jacquelyn Campbell
Edmonton Journal



The Danger Assessment (DA) is a tool for determining a woman's risk of being killed by her intimate partner, originally developed by Dr. Jacquelyn Campbell. The tool has been widely tested and modified, including here in Alberta.

On April 19th, 2018 Dr. Campbell delivered a keynote address focusing on the use of the DA in Alberta and around the world. Over 100 people were in attendance, consisting of shelter staff and their community partners.

Safety From Domestic Violence

The Inventory of Promising Practices was the culmination of a three year consultation with community organizations, including shelters, and other agencies to share promising practices about how to respond to, and prevent, domestic violence.



RCMP Sgt. Shawyn French opens the media event in K-Division HQ.



Carolyn Goard, ACWS Director of Member Services (left), ACWS Board Member and SLEC Chair, Gaye Warthe (right) received the 2018 Inspiration award pictured with Minister Irfan Sabir (middle). Carolyn retired from ACWS in December 2019.

Hill Day

On June 2018 twenty-four shelter directors, staff and board members travelled to Ottawa for meetings with political representatives in advance of the Women's Shelters Canada conference. They held multiple meetings with a number of ministers, parliamentary secretaries, ministerial advisors and representatives from the official opposition and the NDP.



The picture shows Ian Wheeliker (Executive Director of Central Alberta Women's Emergency Shelter, later to step in to Carolyn Goard's role in ACWS), Christie Lavan, (ACWS Leading Change Program Developer), Minister of National Defence Harjit Sajjan, Susan White (Executive Director of Dr. Margaret Savage Crisis Centre).

Outcomes Conference

Painting by Numbers & Coloured by Context: The Power of Data Informing Practice & Policy

Dr. Steve Patty (see photo on the bottom right) of Dialogues in Action visited Edmonton in 2018 to support shelters telling their story in our second annual Shelter Outcomes Conference.



Shelters unpacked how to build a strong evidence base for their work as well as showcasing a number of successful projects from across the province.



Breakfast with the Guys



In 2018 the Breakfast with the Guys took place during Grey Cup week. As part of our week of Grey Cup activities the Breakfast focused on football stories. We were joined by Rick Campbell, Head Coach of the Ottawa Redblacks (see photo to the right) whose father was a founder of the first ever Breakfast. Also on stage was JR LaRose (formerly of the B.C. Lions), Zach Chomchuk (Edmonton Wildcats), Keon Raymond (Calgary Stampeders/ ACWS). Over 250 people lent their support to our call to create the Safest Grey Cup ever.



2018 Grey Cup

The Grey Cup was held in Edmonton with the ambition of being the 'Best Grey Cup Ever'. ACWS, ACT Alberta, YWCA, Sexual Assault Centre of Edmonton (SACE) and WIN House responded with an awareness campaign to also make it the Safest Grey Cup ever.

ACWS also produced radio and newspaper ads, and had a booth in the Festival grounds.

Grey Cup event participants were encouraged to sign pledges for ACWS showing how their actions can make a difference in ending domestic violence.



Keon Raymond (Calgary Stampeders/ACWS), with ACWS Leading Change Program Developer, Christie Lavan, Executive Director, Jan Reimer, and JR LaRose (formerly of the B.C. Lions).

Gifts of Hope Gala 2018



The Gifts of Hope is an annual gala event organized by a group of Edmonton women dedicated to ending domestic abuse (committee members shown above). The event gets stronger each year raising much needed sums to support the work of ACWS. The Gifts of Hope Committee are the deserved winners of the 2019 ACWS Volunteer Award.



Data Release

Our 2018 aggregate data release was announced at a media event held at the PolicyWise office. We focused on highlighting the scale of Alberta's ongoing domestic violence epidemic but also data which demonstrated the impact of the work which shelters do to transform lives.



Alberta Kind

In response to the massacre in the mosque in Christchurch ACWS launched a social media campaign inviting people to commit to showing that kindness is an Alberta value.

238 people signed up through the various channels on social media.

Lubna Zaeem (IFSSA), Jan Reimer (ACWS), and Wati Rahmat (Nisa Homes) at the 'Alberta Kind' press conference.



Leading Change Summit 2019



ACWS Leading Change Community Developer Tuval Dinner Nafshi, actor and activist Terry Crews, Dr. Michael Flood.

The Leading Change Summit was the first such gathering of violence-prevention practitioners in Western Canada. Keynote speakers included Dr. Michael Flood from Australia and actor and activist Terry Crews. But the Summit also included presentations from experts from across Alberta and beyond.

Across the Summit and the Terry Crews public event in the Edmonton Convention Centre around 1300 people gathered to discuss how to end gender-based violence. Our intention is to hold a summit every two years as we seek to build an even stronger movement of people and organizations committed to violence prevention.



ACWS Leading Change Program Developer, Christie Lavan gifted a pendleton blanket to Enoch Cree Nation Elder, Irene Morin.



ACWS Executive Director, Jan Reimer speaking at the welcoming plenary for the Leading Change Summit.



Financial Statements

**For The Year Ended
March 31, 2019**



INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Members of Alberta Council of Women's Shelters

Qualified Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Alberta Council of Women's Shelters (the Organization), which comprise the statement of financial position as at March 31, 2019, and the statements of revenues and expenditures, changes in net assets and cash flow for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, except for the possible effects of the matter described in the *Basis for Qualified Opinion* section of our report, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Organization as at March 31, 2019, and the results of its operations and its cash flow for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

Basis for Qualified Opinion

In common with many not-for-profit organizations, the Organization derives revenue from fundraising activities the completeness of which is not susceptible to satisfactory audit verification. Accordingly, verification of these revenues was limited to the amounts recorded in the records of the Organization. Therefore, we were not able to determine whether any adjustments might be necessary to fundraising revenue, excess of revenues over expenses, and cash flows from operations for the year ended March 31, 2019, current assets and net assets as at March 31, 2019. Our audit opinion on the financial statements for the year ended March 31, 2018 was modified accordingly because of the possible effects of this limitation of scope.

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements* section of our report. We are independent of the Organization in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Canada, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with those requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our qualified audit opinion.

Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the 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.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Organization's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters relating to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Organization or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

(continues)

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Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Alberta Council of Women's Shelters *(continued)*

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Organization's financial reporting process.

Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements. As part of an audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit 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 Organization's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Organization's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Organization to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

METRIX GROUP LLP

Chartered Professional Accountants

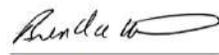
Edmonton, Alberta
June 10, 2019



ALBERTA COUNCIL OF WOMEN'S SHELTERS
Statement of Financial Position
As at March 31, 2019

	2019	2018 <i>Revised</i>
ASSETS		
CURRENT		
Cash (<i>Note 2</i>)	\$ 2,095,132	\$ 1,348,476
Casino restricted cash (<i>Note 3</i>)	71,462	68,988
Investments (<i>Note 4</i>)	-	1,500,000
Accounts receivable	59,342	66,717
Goods and services tax recoverable	11,660	6,368
Prepaid expenses	1,393	1,359
	<u>2,238,989</u>	<u>2,991,908</u>
TANGIBLE CAPITAL ASSETS (<i>Note 5</i>)	<u>27,046</u>	<u>40,235</u>
	<u>\$ 2,266,035</u>	<u>\$ 3,032,143</u>
LIABILITIES		
CURRENT		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 36,920	\$ 21,761
Deferred contributions (<i>Note 6</i>)	1,040,061	2,186,328
	<u>1,076,981</u>	<u>2,208,089</u>
DEFERRED CAPITAL CONTRIBUTIONS (<i>Note 7</i>)	<u>4,886</u>	<u>6,515</u>
	<u>1,081,867</u>	<u>2,214,604</u>
NET ASSETS		
Unrestricted fund	559,130	429,579
Internally restricted (<i>Note 8</i>)	602,877	354,239
Invested in tangible capital assets	22,161	33,721
	<u>1,184,168</u>	<u>817,539</u>
	<u>\$ 2,266,035</u>	<u>\$ 3,032,143</u>
LEASE COMMITMENTS (<i>Note 9</i>)		

ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD

 Director

 Director

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



ALBERTA COUNCIL OF WOMEN'S SHELTERS
Statement of Revenues and Expenditures
For The Year Ended March 31, 2019

	2019	2018 <i>Revised</i>
REVENUE		
Grants (<i>Schedule 1</i>)	\$ 1,643,993	\$ 1,280,732
Sponsorships	259,100	10,400
Event registration	192,970	38,576
Donations	168,198	169,386
Membership fees	75,300	70,650
Interest and other	67,559	62,652
Training	60,273	52,580
Casino	22,389	83,875
Amortization - deferred capital contribution (<i>Note 7</i>)	1,629	1,629
	<u>2,491,411</u>	<u>1,770,480</u>
EXPENSES		
Salaries, wages and benefits	1,015,486	863,559
Program expenses	940,122	457,459
Occupancy costs	57,757	45,683
Office	31,933	22,703
Telephone	23,170	28,412
Amortization	13,189	19,432
Annual general meeting	11,433	14,185
Interest and bank charges	10,391	4,099
Gifts and honorariums	8,018	5,903
Professional fees	6,079	28,007
Minor office equipment	3,195	14,109
Insurance	2,517	2,065
Recruitment and training	1,492	11,312
	<u>2,124,782</u>	<u>1,516,928</u>
EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES	<u>\$ 366,629</u>	<u>\$ 253,552</u>

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



ALBERTA COUNCIL OF WOMEN'S SHELTERS
Statement of Changes in Net Assets
For The Year Ended March 31, 2019

	Unrestricted Fund	Internally Restricted	Invested in Tangible Capital Assets	2019	2018
NET ASSETS - BEGINNING OF YEAR					
As previously reported	\$ 499,689	\$ 354,239	\$ 33,721	\$ 887,649	\$ 627,668
Prior period adjustments (Note 11)	(70,110)	-	-	(70,110)	(63,681)
As restated	429,579	354,239	33,721	817,539	563,987
EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES	366,629	-	-	366,629	253,552
Internal reserve transfers (Note 8)	(248,638)	248,638	-	-	-
Amortization of tangible capital assets	13,189	-	(13,189)	-	-
Amortization of deferred capital contribution (Note 7)	(1,629)	-	1,629	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
NET ASSETS - END OF YEAR	\$ 559,130	\$ 602,877	\$ 22,161	\$ 1,184,168	\$ 817,539

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



ALBERTA COUNCIL OF WOMEN'S SHELTERS
Statement of Cash Flow
For The Year Ended March 31, 2019

	2019	2018 <i>Revised</i>
OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Excess of revenue over expenses	\$ 366,629	\$ 253,552
Items not affecting cash:		
Amortization	13,189	19,432
Amortization - deferred capital contribution	<u>(1,629)</u>	<u>(1,629)</u>
	<u>378,189</u>	<u>271,355</u>
Changes in non-cash working capital:		
Accounts receivable	7,375	(24,067)
GST payable (receivable)	(5,292)	8,440
Prepaid expenses	(34)	(1,359)
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	15,159	(3,510)
Deferred contributions	<u>(1,146,267)</u>	<u>(626,246)</u>
	<u>(1,129,059)</u>	<u>(646,742)</u>
	<u>(750,870)</u>	<u>(375,387)</u>
INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Purchase of tangible capital assets	-	(34,216)
Proceeds from sale of guaranteed investment certificate	<u>1,500,000</u>	<u>-</u>
Cash flow from (used by) investing activities	<u>1,500,000</u>	<u>(34,216)</u>
FINANCING ACTIVITY		
Deferred capital contribution	-	8,143
INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH FLOW	749,130	(401,460)
Cash - beginning of year	<u>1,417,464</u>	<u>1,818,924</u>
CASH - END OF YEAR	\$ 2,166,594	\$ 1,417,464
CASH CONSISTS OF:		
Cash	\$ 2,095,132	\$ 1,348,476
Casino restricted cash	<u>71,462</u>	<u>68,988</u>
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
	\$ 2,166,594	\$ 1,417,464

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



ALBERTA COUNCIL OF WOMEN'S SHELTERS
Notes to Financial Statements
For the Year Ended March 31, 2019

PURPOSE OF THE ORGANIZATION

Alberta Council of Women's Shelters (the "organization") is a not-for-profit organization incorporated provincially under the Societies Act of Alberta on April 11, 1983. As a registered charity the Organization is exempt from the payment of income tax under Section 149(1) of the Income Tax Act.

The Organization operates works to:

- Develop a coordinated, collaborative response to family violence;
 - Coordinate funding and improve services in order to better meet the needs of abused women, their children and abused seniors;
 - Educate the public and professionals about prevention of, and responses to, spousal and senior abuse;
 - Initiate, conduct and/or participate in research relating to the causes, impacts, prevention of family violence, and elimination of violence against women, children and seniors.
-

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of presentation

The financial statements were prepared in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations (ASNFPO).

Revenue recognition

Alberta Council of Women's Shelters follows the deferral method of accounting for contributions, which include donations and government grants.

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.

Restricted contributions for the purchase of tangible capital assets are deferred and amortized into revenue at a rate corresponding with the amortization rate for the related tangible capital assets.

Membership fees and interest income is recognized as revenue as earned.

Contributed services

The operations of the organization depend on both the contribution of time by volunteers and donated materials from various sources. The fair value of donated materials and services cannot be reasonably determined and are therefore not reflected in these financial statements.

(continues)



ALBERTA COUNCIL OF WOMEN'S SHELTERS
Notes to Financial Statements
For the Year Ended March 31, 2019

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Tangible capital assets

Tangible capital assets are stated at cost or deemed cost less accumulated amortization and are amortized over their estimated useful lives at the following rates and methods:

Office equipment	20%	straight-line method
Computer equipment	33 1/3%	straight-line method
Leasehold improvements	20%	straight-line method

The Organization regularly reviews its tangible capital assets to eliminate obsolete items.

Tangible capital assets acquired during the year but not placed into use are not amortized until they are placed into use.

Financial instruments

Measurement of financial instruments

The Organization initially measures its financial assets and financial liabilities at fair value adjusted by, in the case of a financial instrument that will not be measured subsequently at fair value, the amount of transaction costs directly attributable to the instruments.

The Association subsequently measures all its financial assets and financial liabilities at amortized cost, except for investments in equity instruments that are quoted in an active market, which are measured at fair value. Changes in fair value are recognized in net income.

Financial assets measured at amortized cost include cash and accounts receivable.

Financial liabilities measured at amortized cost include accounts payable and accrued liabilities.

The Organization has no financial assets measured at fair value.

Impairment

Financial assets measured at cost are tested for impairment when there are indicators of impairment. The amount of the write-down is recognized in net income. The previously recognized impairment loss may be reversed to the extent of the improvement, directly or by adjusting the allowance account, provided it is no greater than the amount that would have been reported at the date of the reversal had the impairment not been recognized previously. The amount of the reversal is recognized in net income.

Transaction costs

The Organization recognizes its transaction costs in net income in the period incurred. However, the carrying amount of the financial instruments that will not be subsequently measured at fair value is reflected in the transaction costs that are directly attributable to their organization, issuance or assumption.

(continues)



ALBERTA COUNCIL OF WOMEN'S SHELTERS
Notes to Financial Statements
For the Year Ended March 31, 2019

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Measurement uncertainty

The preparation of financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the recorded amounts of assets and liabilities, the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Significant areas requiring the use of management's estimates include the useful lives of tangible capital assets and the corresponding rates of amortization, recoverability of accounts receivable and the amount of accrued liabilities. All estimates are reviewed periodically and adjustments are made to the statements of operations as appropriate in the year they become known.

2. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

Cash and cash equivalents comprise of the following:

	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>
Operating cash	\$ 2,070,988	\$ 1,329,469
Money market funds	24,145	19,007
	<u>\$ 2,095,133</u>	<u>\$ 1,348,476</u>

3. RESTRICTED CASH

Funds gained from a Casino event are placed in a separate bank account. These funds, which total \$71,462 (2017 - \$68,988) at year end, are restricted in that they may only be used for expenses related to operating the charitable gaming event as well as for the purposes stated in the charity's gaming license application. The current license indicated that the funds would be used for occupational and administrative costs, the production of newsletters, program related equipment, hosting conference/seminars/trainings for volunteers as well as website development and maintenance.

4. INVESTMENTS

	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>
Guaranteed Investment Certificates	\$ -	\$ 1,500,000

Guaranteed Investment Certificates bear interest at 2.15% and matured March 29, 2019.



ALBERTA COUNCIL OF WOMEN'S SHELTERS
Notes to Financial Statements
For the Year Ended March 31, 2019

5. TANGIBLE CAPITAL ASSETS

	Cost	Accumulated amortization	2019 Net book value	2018 Net book value
Computer equipment	\$ 31,204	\$ (31,204)	\$ -	\$ 4,173
Leasehold improvements	34,215	(13,686)	20,529	27,372
Office equipment	59,421	(52,904)	6,517	8,690
	\$ 124,840	\$ (97,794)	\$ 27,046	\$ 40,235

6. DEFERRED CONTRIBUTIONS - OPERATING

	2018	Funds received	Revenue recognized	2019
<u>Projects</u>				
ACWS Members - Member Contribution Training Fund	\$ 142,733	\$ 11,000	\$ (43,720)	\$ 110,013
Edmonton Heritage Council - ACWS History Project	7,155	-	(6,025)	1,130
Edmonton Police Foundation - School Resource Officer DV Training	22,178	-	-	22,178
Family Business Connect - DV and its impact upon the Workplace, Family and Community	188,693	-	(3,069)	185,624
Leading Change Inspired Communities - Awareness of and change the culture of DV	8,941	-	(8,941)	-
GOA, CSS - Building Shelter Capacity to work with Indigenous Communities	225,872	-	(61,807)	164,065
GOA, CSS - Engaging Men & Boys to End Violence Against Women and Girls.	395,201	-	(318,220)	76,981
GOA, CSS - Leading Change in Alberta Workplaces	368,963	-	(184,057)	184,906
GOA, CSS - Making a difference through training & education	353,533	-	(287,737)	65,796

(continues)



ALBERTA COUNCIL OF WOMEN'S SHELTERS
Notes to Financial Statements
For the Year Ended March 31, 2019

6. DEFERRED CONTRIBUTIONS - OPERATING (continued)

	2018	Funds received	Revenue recognized	2019
GOA, CSS - Measuring Impact	221,078	-	(221,078)	-
GOA, Labour - Hazards of DV for Safer Work Sites	-	50,000	(3,663)	46,337
GOA, Labour - Awareness Tools for Alberta Employers of Workplace Violence	-	20,000	-	20,000
GOA, Labour - Safe Workplaces, Safe Women: OH&S Collective Capacity	-	20,000	(4,516)	15,484
GOC, WaGE - Leading Change 2018 Grey Cup	-	70,000	(51,755)	18,245
GOC, WaGE - Promising Practices To Support Survivors and their Families	-	30,000	(60)	29,940
GOC, WaGE - Safety from DV: Keep Women Safe	101,613	-	(101,613)	-
Total project deferred contribution	<u>2,035,960</u>	<u>201,000</u>	<u>(1,296,261)</u>	<u>940,699</u>
<u>Unearned revenue</u>				
Membership fees received in advanced	70,050	20,500	(70,050)	20,500
Training fees received in advanced	10,209	7,400	(10,209)	7,400
	<u>80,259</u>	<u>27,900</u>	<u>(80,259)</u>	<u>27,900</u>
<u>Casino funds</u>				
Casino restricted funds	70,109	24,862	(23,509)	71,462
	<u>\$ 2,186,328</u>	<u>\$ 253,762</u>	<u>\$ (1,400,029)</u>	<u>\$ 1,040,061</u>

ACWS - Alberta Council of Women's Shelters
 CSS - Community and Social Services
 DV - Domestic Violence
 GOA - Government of Alberta;
 GOC - Government of Canada;
 WaGE - Women and Gender Equality



ALBERTA COUNCIL OF WOMEN'S SHELTERS
Notes to Financial Statements
For the Year Ended March 31, 2019

7. DEFERRED CAPITAL CONTRIBUTIONS

Deferred capital contributions represent restricted contributions with which some of the Organization's tangible capital assets were purchased. The changes in these contributions are as follows:

	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>
Balance, Beginning of Year	\$ 6,515	\$ -
Add:		
Contributions received	-	8,144
Less:		
Amortization of deferred capital contributions	<u>(1,629)</u>	<u>(1,629)</u>
Balance, End of Year	\$ 4,886	\$ 6,515

8. INTERNAL RESTRICTIONS

The Board of Directors of the Organization has allocated funds for specifically identified purposes. The Organization may not use these internally restricted funds for any other purpose without the approval of the Board of Directors.

	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>
Stabilization reserve		
The Organization has established a stabilization reserve to hold three months of operating expenses.	\$ 282,000	\$ 182,000
Conference Legacy fund		
The Organization has established a reserve to be used for dissemination and follow up activities related to ACWS hosted conferences.	103,193	30,794
Equipment reserve		
The Organization has established a reserve for future capital equipment purchases.	25,000	20,000
Moving/Renovation reserve		
The Organization has established a reserve for moving and renovation expenditures.	10,000	5,000
Social Enterprise fund		
The Organization has established a fund to ensure program stabilization and expansion.	<u>182,684</u>	<u>116,445</u>
	\$ 602,877	\$ 354,239



ALBERTA COUNCIL OF WOMEN'S SHELTERS
Notes to Financial Statements
For the Year Ended March 31, 2019

9. LEASE COMMITMENTS

The Organization has an operating lease with respect to its premises effective June 1, 2017, expiring May 31, 2022. The lease contains renewal options at the end of the lease for an additional five year term. Future minimum lease payments as at March 31, 2019, are as follows:

2020	\$	22,356
2021		25,550
2022		<u>25,550</u>
	\$	<u>73,456</u>

10. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The Organization is exposed to various risks through its financial instruments and has a comprehensive risk management framework to monitor, evaluate and manage these risks. The following analysis provides information about the Organization's risk exposure and concentration as of March 31, 2019.

(a) Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that an entity will encounter difficulty in meeting obligations associated with financial liabilities. The Organization is exposed to this risk mainly in respect of its receipt of funds from its sponsors, donors and funding agencies to meet their financial liabilities. The Organization mitigates this risk by ensuring operational and capital costs are appropriately budgeted for on an ongoing basis.

Unless otherwise noted, it is management's opinion that the Organization is not exposed to significant other price risks arising from these financial instruments.



ALBERTA COUNCIL OF WOMEN'S SHELTERS
Notes to Financial Statements
For the Year Ended March 31, 2019

11. PRIOR PERIOD ADJUSTMENT

Guaranteed Investment Certificates - On March 29, 2018, the Organization reinvested \$1,500,000 into guaranteed investment certificates for a one year term. In 2018, the \$1,500,000 was not recorded in investments but remained in the Organization's cash operating account. As a result, a prior period adjustment has been made to increase investments and decrease cash by \$1,500,000.

Casino restricted funds - Funds received from Casino events are placed in a separate bank account as they are restricted and may only be used for expenses as per the charity's gaming license application. As an external restriction is imposed on the Casino restricted funds, a corresponding deferred contribution should exist as of the fiscal yearend. Further investigation has identified that the recognition of Casino fund revenue in the past was based on funds received, instead of when eligible expenditures were incurred. As a result, the following prior period adjustments were made:

- a) To adjust for Casino restricted funds recognized in revenue prior to 2018 fiscal year, a decrease in retained earnings and increase in deferred contributions of \$63,680.
- b) To adjust for Casino restricted funds recognized in revenue for the 2018 fiscal year, a decrease in revenue and increase in deferred contributions of \$6,430.

Deferred capital contributions - In the 2018 fiscal year, an external restricted donation of \$8,143 was provided to the Organization to fund the leasehold improvement additions. In accordance with accounting standards for not for profit organizations, restricted contributions for the purchase of tangible capital assets are deferred and amortized into revenue at a rate corresponding with the amortization rate for the related tangible capital assets. However, prior year accounting treatment netted the externally restricted donation with the leasehold improvement addition resulting an understatement of tangible capital assets and deferred capital contributions. As a result, the following prior period adjustments were made:

- a) To appropriately record the leasehold improvement and deferred capital contribution, an increase to tangible capital assets and deferred capital contributions of \$8,143.
- b) To appropriately record the recognition of expense (tangible capital asset) and revenue (deferred capital contribution), an increase of amortization expense and amortization of deferred capital contribution revenue of \$1,629.

Certain comparative figures have been restated to conform to the current year's presentation.

12. COMPARATIVE FIGURES

The prior year comparative figures were audited by another firm of public accountants.



Grant Schedule **(Schedule 1)**
For The Year Ended March 31, 2019

	2019	2018
Anonymous Donor	\$ -	\$ 15,108
Alberta Historical Resources Foundation	12,546	7,454
Canada Alberta Job Grant	2,267	4,092
Canada Summer Job Grant	-	4,592
City of Edmonton	16,500	17,000
Edmonton Heritage Council	6,024	2,386
Family Business Connect	3,069	6,174
GOA - Community & Social Services		
Operating Grant	295,420	295,420
Measuring Impact	221,078	98,784
Training & Education	287,737	135,494
Domestic Violence in the Workplace	184,057	145,783
Engaging Men & Boys	318,220	261,439
Aboriginal Communities	61,806	67,324
GOA - Justice & Solicitor General	-	50,385
GOA - Status of Women	15,000	10,000
GOA - Labour		
OH&S Collective Capacity	4,516	-
Safer Worksites	3,663	-
GOC - Justice	6,000	7,500
GOC - Women & Gender Equality		
2018 Grey Cup	51,754	-
Safety from Domestic Violence	101,614	46,372
Promising Practice	60	-
IODE	-	5,970
Leading Change Inspired Communities	8,942	17,947
Member Contribution Fund	43,720	15,872
Men & Boys Fund	-	55,104
Training Fund	-	10,532
\$ 1,643,993	\$ 1,280,732	

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