



2019-2020



ACWS

Alberta Council of
Women's Shelters

**ANNUAL
REPORT**

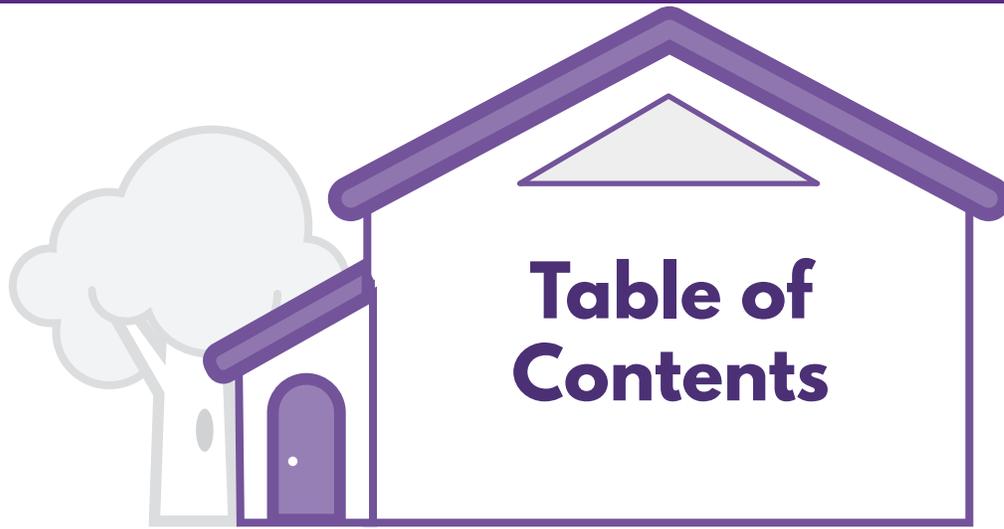
Traditional Land Acknowledgment

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 learn from 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 honour them as life givers and care givers as we honour 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 4, 6, 7, and 8 lands across this province which include the six Métis regions of Alberta.



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Gaye Warthe, President

Jessica Chapman, Vice President

Jeanette Sandstra, Secretary

Pamela Wicks, Treasurer

Patricia Garrett, Director

Jerri Taylor, Director

Sandy A. Vander Ziel, Director

Michele Taylor, Director

Wanda McGinnis, Director

Brittany Johnson, Public Director

Brian Simpson, Public Director

Tracy Lee, Public Director

Barb Okemow, Director
(Partial term; appointed in 2019)



Executive Director: **Jan Reimer**

Director of Programs: **Ian Wheeliker**

Director of Public Relations and Community Engagement: **Christie Lavan**

Manager-Finance, HR and IT: **Jennifer Ness**

Program Development & Training Coordinator: **Catherine Hickman**

Indigenous Relations and Programs Coordinator: **Roxane Blood**

Coordinator of Communications and Social Advocacy: **Eoin Murray/Carlynn McAneeley**

Data and Project Advisor: **Cat Van Wielingen/Amy Mercure**

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

Administrative Support: **Husna Khaidir**

Communications Support: **Lorelle Whittingham**

Logistic Assistant & Leading Change Support: **Caitlin Hart**

Data and Member Support: **Janine Isaac**

Project Lead, Building Collective Capacity: **Mychaela Risling**

Project Lead, Enhancing Women Centered Practice
Using Assessment Tools with Survivors of Domestic Violence: **Blessing Muyambo**

Project Assistant: **Krishna Quiambao**

Many contractors, consultants, and interns helped make our work possible, and we thank them all for their contributions.



The women who began the sheltering movement in Alberta forged a bold path. For over three decades in this province, women have worked and advocated for a safe place for women fleeing domestic violence. Their journey and achievements are truly remarkable, and we are thrilled to be able to highlight many of their stories with our Shelter History Project.

When we started talking about capturing the rich history of Alberta's sheltering movement with the Shelter History Project, we had no idea that we would be unveiling it in what has turned out to be such a historic year for women's shelters in Alberta.

With the declaration of the COVID-19 pandemic this March, much of our day-to-day lives shut down. But as we know, the work of women's shelters is essential and doesn't stop. Women's shelters stayed open, while banks, government offices, food banks, and even police detachments closed their doors.

We are humbled by the resilience and perseverance of our members. Shelter directors courageously led their teams through uncharted territory, doing everything they could to continue meeting the needs of women, children, and seniors facing domestic violence in their communities. It rings truer than ever that women's shelters are fearless innovators improving our communities' response to domestic violence.

This year, the board warmly welcomed Barb Okemow, Wanda McGinnis, and Tracy Lee. Both Brian Simpson and Pamela Wicks are ending their terms as directors, and we are so grateful for their tremendous contributions to the work of ACWS. A special thank you and farewell to Pat Garrett, who is ending her term on the board as she retires after 30 years of advocacy and service to the women's shelter movement. The expertise, dedication, and strategic perspectives the board members' bring to their work keep moving our organization forward.

We had a groundbreaking year at ACWS for public and private support to expand the work we do together. Notably, we received federal funding for two major grant projects: Building Collective Capacity and the Blueprint Project. We are humbled by the confidence placed in us to expand our efforts to end domestic violence in Alberta. In these uncertain times, the board is moving forward with a focused fund development strategy to continue to build on this momentum.

Our 2019 data release made a significant impact on the public discourse, revealing that nearly 2/3 of women assessed while entering shelter last year were at an extreme or severe risk of being murdered by their intimate partner. One of our greatest strengths as a collective, we are celebrating twenty years of shared data measurement.



On the training front, we were pleased to distribute Stepping into the Circle guides to members. With the generous commitment from IODE Alberta of \$100,000 toward our Children's Curriculum training, we are excited to expand our supports for frontline staff working with children traumatized by domestic violence.

We made great strides in our public advocacy work this year, from meeting with newly elected provincial government representatives to holding our flagship Breakfast with the Guys in both Edmonton and Calgary to talk about engaging men and boys in ending violence against women.

We thank all the supporters of this work and look forward to building on the progress we have made this year.

Yours sincerely,

Gaye Warthe
President

Jan Reimer
Executive Director



Government Funders

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

Community & Corporate Supporters

Shoppers Drug Mart
CN Foundation
Global Edmonton
The Gifts of Hope Committee
Tiara Golf Classic
IODE Alberta
Brownlee LLP
The Tenaquip Foundation
Edmonton Community Foundation – Unitas Fund
United Nurses of Alberta
Calgary Foundation for Rickbeil Family Fund
Alberta Federation of Labour

The work we do is possible because of our supporters. Each year we are fortunate to have a dedicated group of individual monthly donors as well as many donors who have provided annual or one-time gifts from their hearts. There is no way to truly thank you enough for being a part of the journey to end violence against women. Thank you to each of you from all of us. We are truly grateful.



Alberta Shoppers Drug Mart Pharmacist-owners have committed funding to member women's shelters through their program LOVE YOU by Shoppers Drug Mart™. Women's shelters can apply to access the Women's Shelter Fund supported by LOVE YOU by Shoppers Drug Mart™, managed by Alberta Council of Women's Shelters, to meet the emergency needs of women, children, and seniors accessing shelter services where other funding sources leave gaps.

- To date, this fund has helped shelters help survivors of violence by covering critical expenses totalling over \$35,000 from Lloydminster in the east to Rocky Mountain House in the west - from Peace River in the north to Medicine Hat in the south.
- Provides financial support to ACWS to create posters and a quarterly newsletter for Shoppers staff sharing about the impact of this fund and tools to prevent domestic violence.
- Has begun taking Leading Change training to learn more about the complex dynamics of abuse, the gendered roots of coercive controlling violence and the spectrum of actions they can take as informal responders.
- Has advised pharmacist owners about shelters in their community to contact directly with to support with additional fundraising initiatives and donations of things like furniture

"Christine was booked to move out of the Shelter just at the beginning of the declaration of the COVID- 19 pandemic. The agencies Christine would have been normally referred to for her furniture needs were closed and unable to support her. The normal support network our clients usually take advantage of was all of a sudden not available. Because of her financial situation, she could not afford any furniture for her unfurnished apartment therefore Sonshine decided to step in and purchase the basic items for her with the help of the Women's Shelter Fund." - Sonshine Society of Christian Community Services*

"I supported Allie many times with their interactions with Alberta Works/Income support. Allie was denied assistance to pay for medications until they were physically at the Treatment Center. The Treatment Center would not be able to accept them unless they had the proper medications prior to admission. We see this barrier to services often. Safe Haven decided we would use the Women's Shelter Fund to cover the cost of the medications to ensure Allie was able to attend the program." – Safe Haven Women's Shelter Society*

"Prior to COVID-19, these women were preparing their own meals in shared kitchens. As we prepare for the likelihood of women coming down with COVID and needing to self-isolate, we expect to be purchasing fresh food and preparing healthy meals delivered to their doors. This fund will greatly assist us with making sure our clients' needs continue to be met and that they are staying healthy in this unnerving time." – YWCA of Calgary

* names have been changed to protect the identities of the women in these stories.



The key activities of the Board Governance Committee for this past year were as follows:

1. Ongoing development of a cohesive defined role for fundraising for board members
2. Review of the requirements for a virtual AGM and how to support that through policy
3. Ongoing policy review as required by bylaws, policies, and operations

As part of ongoing work to develop a fundraising strategy for ACWS board members, Global Philanthropic facilitated a workshop on December 11th, 2019. ACWS board members and staff, community leaders, strategic partners, and donors attended to identify areas of priority for the board in fund development. From this workshop, we categorized three areas of priority: Planning and Policy Decisions, Monitoring Actions, and Financial Development. Once we receive the full report from Global Philanthropic, we will have further discussions around policy development to support these priorities.

Following discussions around the development of an online AGM, the committee recommended to the Board that ACWS no longer pursue this option as the primary method of delivering an AGM and that ACWS explore options if online participation is requested. Shortly following this meeting, the global COVID-19 pandemic was declared, and the committee reassessed their recommendation and this report will be presented at ACWS' first on-line AGM.

Due to the workload in the previous fiscal year with regard to the incorporation of policy recommendations by the Indigenous Relations Advisory Committee, the committee has spent the bulk of its time reviewing multiple policies to reach compliance within those policies.

I would like to thank the committee members Michele Taylor, Wanda McGinnis, and Jessica Chapman for their significant contributions to the work of the committee, as well as ACWS staff for their ongoing support.

Submitted by:

Jeannette Sandstra
Chair, Board Governance Committee



During the fiscal year ended March 31, 2020, the Finance, Audit and Risk Management (FARM) committee diligently worked to fulfill its duties as a committee of the ACWS Board of Directors. The work done by the committee, in line with the committee mandate, ensured that the board was kept up to date on the financial position of the organization in order to carry out its obligations and responsibilities related to financial governance, oversight, and risk management.

The significant components of the work of the committee related to the annual budget, the interim and annual financial statements, the review of investments, and the review and updating of related board policies. For the budget process, the committee provided input on specific assumptions, then reviewed and recommended the budget for approval to the board of directors. On a quarterly basis, the committee reviewed the interim financial statements including the variance analysis comparing actual results to the budget. For the annual financial statements, the committee approved the audit plan, reviewed the financial statements with the auditors, and recommended the financial statements for approval to the board.

This year we reviewed our membership fee structure, and we completed an assessment of our financial institution. We did not make changes to either. We also reviewed several policies, including reserve funds, financial planning, financial condition, and expense claim limits, and we developed a schedule for review to ensure periodic review of each policy is conducted. The committee also assessed the annual workplan and deemed it to be a valuable tool which ensures we fulfill our committee mandate and provides comfort to the board. This workplan is tweaked annually as new issues arise or changes to timing of certain tasks are deemed appropriate.

This past year we also began an assessment of our investment strategies. This is still in progress. We were fortunate to have received a significant donation of \$115,000 from an estate last year, and we are analyzing options to maximize the value of this donation. One new strategy we are evaluating is the creation of an endowment fund or a foundation, which could create long-term sustainability to ACWS. We have been successful in obtaining multi-year grants, and funding this year is deemed to be adequate for our planned operations.

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, the 2019-2020 annual audit by Metrix LLP was a little later than usual this year. In July, the committee met to review the audited financial statements with the auditor. The financial statements were subsequently approved by the Board of Directors on August 19. Financially, ACWS had an excellent year. There was a



significant increase in donations and grant revenues over the prior year and over budget. The result was a surplus of more than \$440,000 for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2020.

Prior to the end of the fiscal year, it was recommended by the FARM committee and approved by the Board, to allocate approximately \$105,000 dollars of the surplus to increase the various reserve funds as follows:

Social Enterprise Fund	\$54,455
Stabilization Fund	\$40,000
Capital Asset Replacement Reserve (*)	\$5,000
Moving/Renovation Fund	\$5,000
Total \$	\$104,455

(*) formerly named the Equipment Reserve

This increased the total funds in its reserve funds by approximately 17%, bringing the total to \$707,000.

ACWS has been working towards a target of four months of operating costs, approximately \$700,000, to have in reserve, specifically in the Stabilization Fund.

Subsequent to year-end, at the August 19, 2020 meeting, the Board approved an additional allocation of the remaining \$336,000 of surplus funds from the 2019-2020 fiscal year, to the Stabilization Fund, which brings the total in that fund to \$658,000 or 94% of the target of \$700,000. In addition to the other reserve funds totaling \$385,000, ACWS was in a strong financial position going into 2020-2021, and better prepared than ever should these reserves need to be drawn on in times of lower grant and donation revenues.

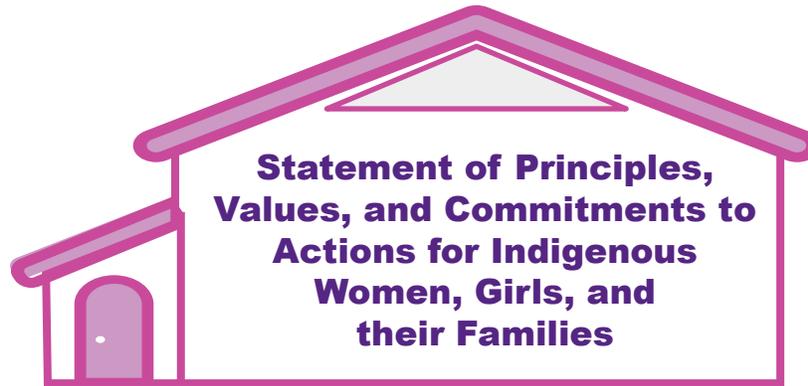
ACWS was successful in several new grant applications for the 2019-2020 year, with two grants in particular being multi-year grants. With the additional current year grants included, we expect \$1.865 million in approved grant revenue to be received in the 2020-2021 fiscal year and therefore will be able to continue to build on the foundation of providing support to our members, frontline training/education, and providing primary prevention programs across the province.



In closing, I would like to express my gratitude to my fellow FARM Committee members: Michele Taylor, Jerri Taylor, and Brian Simpson for their contributions during the past fiscal year. Also, thank you to the ACWS staff members, who do an excellent job in preparing the detailed financial information and related documentation for the committee, making our work go smoothly.

Submitted by:

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

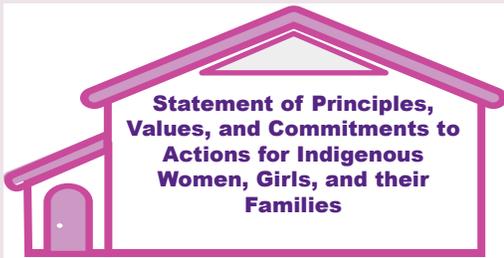


One of ACWS' commitments in our Statement of Principles, Values, and Commitment to Actions is to provide an annual report on our progress.

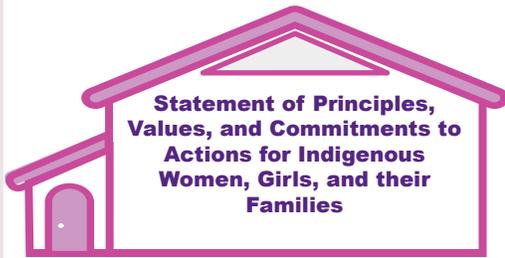
Over the course of the past several years, we developed the Statement of Principles, Values and Commitments to Actions for Indigenous Women, Girls and their Families in consultation with on-reserve shelter members; their staff, band council and board members; and the Alberta Native Friendship Centres Association. It was then further reviewed by the ACWS board and all ACWS members.

The associated Action Plan is a living document that we will continue to update. Most notably the Calls for Justice released in the report of the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls was released late last year. From the onset, we approached our desire for reconciliation with the view that words need to be backed up with action; hence the Statement and the Action Plan were developed concurrently. Our 2019-20 actions include:

1. Creating a dedicated section on the ACWS website to share treaty acknowledgements and other Indigenous Learning Resources. Completion is anticipated in October 2020. We continue to include our acknowledgements in our major papers and reports, and all major meetings begin with an acknowledgement. This acknowledgement is far more than a symbol or a gesture. It is a recognition that we are all treaty people, and we all have a responsibility to be more accountable to Indigenous individuals and communities. Understanding and addressing racism and intolerance is a key and long-term commitment of the Alberta Council of Women's Shelters as we seek to build a world free from violence and abuse.
2. We continue to educate ACWS members and staff about the Treaties and legal relationships between Indigenous peoples and the Crown. The webinar developed in 2018-19 on this topic has been integrated into our Stepping Into the Circle Guide.
3. In implementing the Calls to Action from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission we have incorporated the history and legacy of residential schools; treaties and Indigenous rights; and Indigenous law and Crown-Indigenous relations into ACWS training materials.



4. We continue to advocate when asked on the funding needs for Indigenous women in remote and isolated communities to meet the needs of safety, transportation, employment, housing, childcare, and basic needs. Actions to date include comments on cuts to Greyhound and the impact upon northern communities; consultation with on reserve shelters on the housing strategy; and the establishment of the Alberta Federation of Labour (AFL) Reconciliation Fund for on-reserve shelters. This year, AFL raised \$17,882 to support Eagle's Nest and Sucker Creek women's shelters. These shelters are also accessing the Women's Shelter Fund through our partnership with Shoppers Drug Mart.
5. As part of our commitment to the development of strategic alliances with Indigenous Nations, community leadership, and community organizations to support the work of the First Nations shelters, ACWS and ACWS membership advanced an update in our Memorandum of Agreement with the Alberta Native Friendship Centres Association. We look forward to a signing ceremony and joint meeting when it is safe to do so. We also supported one of our staff members to receive certification in the Alberta First Nations Information Governance Centre training on OCAP principles to support ACWS action-based research. Further, our exciting new Blueprint project specifically includes a focus on meeting the needs of Indigenous women and further testing of the Danger Assessment circle, while continuing to build on strategic alliances in the community. We continue to develop and expand online and print tools for training and education, which include the webinars developed to date, incorporation of an Indigenous component into the children's curriculum, and enhancement of the Danger Assessment Curriculum.
6. ACWS continues to support efforts for a durable and equitable federal funding policy for on-reserve shelters supports and services when asked by our on-reserve members.
7. ACWS supports the creation of Welcoming and Safe Spaces for Indigenous women and children through the sharing shelter practices and encouraging linkages with Indigenous partners. We continue to identify and provide supports to members shelters of Indigenous resources available. Our Stepping into the Circle learning resources were distributed to all members, are also available on the ACWS Members Hub and are being incorporated into our online learning management system. A key milestone this past year was having former Chief Commissioner for the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls, Marion Buller, speak with shelter directors about what they could do to advance the Calls for Justice, followed by a public lecture to address what the community at large needs to do.



8. ACWS continues to uphold our commitment to having a minimum of 3 Indigenous voting members on the ACWS Board of Directors. Our bylaws were changed in September 2019 to allow for public Indigenous as well as on-reserve representation. We currently have two public directors and one on-reserve board delegate.

ACWS also acknowledges that far more needs to be done as we start on our path towards reconciliation. This has been tragically brought to the fore through police brutality and abuse of power shared around the world in recent months. Some of these images and experiences were in our very own province.

Everyone deserves to feel safe and live free from violence and racism in their home, in public spaces, and within institutions. We join our partners in calling for an end to the discrimination and structural racism that underlie the ongoing violence against Indigenous peoples, Black people, and people of color.

We hold fast to our vision of a world free from violence and abuse. We know that all forms of violence and oppression are connected. We cannot end one without the other. The staff and board of ACWS are committed to continue learning from and working with our members, our partners, and those with lived experience, recognizing that our work to end gender-based violence is inextricably linked to ending misogyny and racism at the individual, institutional, and community level and within ourselves.



Highlights of the year



Marion Buller, former Chief Commissioner of the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls, joined us in Edmonton in December to share her learnings and what the public can do to advance the Calls for Justice. From L-R: Marion Buller, Ruth Scalplock, Roxane Blood, and Jodi Calahoo-Stonehouse



Football star Keon Raymond joined us at the Grey Cup in Calgary to help us motivate the public around actions we can all take to end domestic violence.



Highlights of the year



Leading Change Foundational March 3,4 & 6 Calgary 2020
The three-day train-the-trainer included staff from ACWS member shelters, players with the Calgary Stampeders, and staff from Sunshine Ski Resort.



ALBERTA COUNCIL OF WOMEN'S SHELTERS
Financial Statements
For The Year Ended March 31, 2020



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, 2020, and the statements of revenues and expenses, changes in net assets and cash flows 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, 2020, 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 (ASNPO).

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, 2020, current assets and net assets as at March 31, 2020. Our audit opinion on the financial statements for the year ended March 31, 2019 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 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 these 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 ASNPO, 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 related 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.

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

(continues)





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

Auditor's 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
August 19, 2020



ALBERTA COUNCIL OF WOMEN'S SHELTERS
Statement of Financial Position
As at March 31, 2020

	2020	2019
ASSETS		
CURRENT		
Cash (Note 2)	\$ 2,338,146	\$ 2,095,132
Casino restricted cash (Note 3)	32,200	71,462
Accounts receivable	70,082	59,342
Goods and Services Tax recoverable	7,898	11,650
Prepaid expenses	2,483	1,393
	<u>2,450,809</u>	<u>2,238,989</u>
TANGIBLE CAPITAL ASSETS (Note 4)	151,795	27,046
	<u>\$ 2,602,604</u>	<u>\$ 2,266,035</u>
LIABILITIES		
CURRENT		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 128,002	\$ 36,920
Accrued vacation payable	29,247	-
Deferred contributions- operating (Note 5)	679,060	1,040,061
	<u>836,309</u>	<u>1,076,981</u>
DEFERRED CAPITAL CONTRIBUTIONS (Note 6)	141,366	4,886
	<u>977,675</u>	<u>1,081,867</u>
NET ASSETS		
Unrestricted fund	907,169	559,131
Internally restricted (Note 7)	707,332	602,877
Invested in tangible capital asset	10,428	22,160
	<u>1,624,929</u>	<u>1,184,168</u>
	<u>\$ 2,602,604</u>	<u>\$ 2,266,035</u>

ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD:

D. Gay Western Director
Pamela Wick Director

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



ALBERTA COUNCIL OF WOMEN'S SHELTERS
Statement of Revenues and Expenses
For The Year Ended March 31, 2020

	2020	2019
REVENUES		
Grants <i>(Schedule 1)</i>	\$ 1,829,979	\$ 1,643,993
Donations	375,557	168,198
Sponsorships	126,875	259,100
Membership fees	78,575	75,300
Interest and other	55,670	67,559
Training	39,270	60,273
Event registration	35,103	192,970
Casino	22,866	22,389
Amortization - deferred capital contributions <i>(Note 6)</i>	5,031	1,629
	<u>2,568,926</u>	<u>2,491,411</u>
EXPENSES		
Salaries, wages and benefits	1,069,898	1,015,486
Program expenses	845,586	940,122
Occupancy costs	58,119	57,757
Office	41,524	31,933
Gifts and honorariums	36,838	8,018
Amortization	16,763	13,189
Annual general meeting	15,606	11,433
Professional fees	14,863	6,079
Recruitment and training	8,283	1,492
Interest and bank charges	7,819	10,391
Telephone	6,229	23,170
Minor office equipment	4,341	3,195
Insurance	2,296	2,517
	<u>2,128,165</u>	<u>2,124,782</u>
EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES	\$ 440,761	\$ 366,629

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, 2020

	Unrestricted Fund	Internally Restricted	Invested in Tangible Capital Asset	2020	2019
NET ASSETS - BEGINNING OF YEAR	\$ 559,131	\$ 602,677	\$ 22,160	\$ 1,184,168	\$ 817,539
EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES	440,761	-	-	440,761	366,629
Internal reserve transfers <i>(Note 7)</i>	(104,455)	104,455	-	-	-
Amortization of tangible capital assets	16,763	-	(16,763)	-	-
Amortization of deferred capital contribution <i>(Note 6)</i>	(5,031)	-	5,031	-	-
NET ASSETS - END OF YEAR	\$ 907,169	\$ 707,332	\$ 10,428	\$ 1,624,929	\$ 1,184,168

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



ALBERTA COUNCIL OF WOMEN'S SHELTERS
Statement of Cash Flows
For the Year Ended March 31, 2020

	2020	2019
OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Excess of revenues over expenses	\$ 440,761	\$ 366,629
Items not affecting cash:		
Amortization	16,763	13,189
Amortization - deferred capital contributions	(5,031)	(1,629)
	<u>452,493</u>	<u>378,189</u>
Changes in non-cash working capital:		
Accounts receivable	(10,740)	7,375
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	91,081	15,159
Deferred contributions- operating	(361,001)	(1,146,267)
Prepaid expenses	(1,090)	(34)
GST payable (receivable)	3,762	(5,292)
Accrued vacation payable	29,247	-
	<u>(248,741)</u>	<u>(1,129,059)</u>
	<u>203,752</u>	<u>(750,870)</u>
INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Purchase of tangible capital assets	(141,511)	-
Proceeds from sale of marketable securities	-	1,500,000
	<u>(141,511)</u>	<u>1,500,000</u>
Cash flow from (used by) investing activities	<u>(141,511)</u>	<u>1,500,000</u>
FINANCING ACTIVITY		
Deferred capital contribution	141,511	-
	<u>141,511</u>	<u>-</u>
INCREASE IN CASH FLOW	203,752	749,130
Cash - beginning of year	<u>2,166,594</u>	<u>1,417,464</u>
CASH - END OF YEAR	\$ 2,370,346	\$ 2,166,594
CASH CONSISTS OF:		
Cash	\$ 2,338,146	\$ 2,095,132
Casino restricted cash	<u>32,200</u>	<u>71,462</u>
	<u>\$ 2,370,346</u>	<u>\$ 2,166,594</u>

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, 2020

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 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 (ASNPO).

Revenue recognition

The Organization 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, 2020

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 on a straight-line basis at the following rates and methods:

Office equipment	20%	straight-line method
Computer equipment and software	33 1/2%	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 Organization 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 cash equivalents 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, 2020

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 statement of operations as appropriate in the year they become known.

2. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

Cash and cash equivalents comprise of the following:

	2020	2019
Operating cash	\$ 2,303,510	\$ 2,070,987
Money market funds	34,836	24,145
	\$ 2,338,146	\$ 2,095,132

3. CASINO RESTRICTED CASH

Funds gained from a Casino event are placed in a separate bank account. These funds, which total \$32,200 (2019 - \$71,462) 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. TANGIBLE CAPITAL ASSETS

	Cost	Accumulated amortization	2020 Net book value	2019 Net book value
Computer equipment and software	\$ 41,362	\$ (34,607)	\$ 6,755	\$ -
Leasehold improvements	34,215	(20,529)	13,686	20,529
Work in Progress	131,354	-	131,354	-
Office equipment	59,421	(59,421)	-	6,517
	\$ 266,352	\$ (114,557)	\$ 151,795	\$ 27,046



ALBERTA COUNCIL OF WOMEN'S SHELTERS
Notes to Financial Statements
For the Year Ended March 31, 2020

5. DEFERRED CONTRIBUTIONS - OPERATING

	2019	Funds received	Revenue recognized	2020
Projects				
ACWS Members - Member Contribution Training Fund	\$ 110,013	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 110,013
AFL Justice Fund- Support for Indigenous Women	-	17,882	-	17,882
Edmonton Heritage Council - ACWS History Project	1,129	-	(1,129)	-
Edmonton Police Foundation - School Resource Officer DV Training	22,178	-	-	22,178
Edmonton Community Foundation Vital Signs Grant	-	10,000	(1,024)	8,976
Family Business Connect - DV and its impact upon the Workplace, Family and Community	185,624	-	-	185,624
GOA, CSS - Building Shelter Capacity to work with Indigenous Communities	164,065	-	(164,065)	-
GOA, CSS - Data collection; train, educate and provide public awareness for workplaces; support a cultural shift to end violence against women and girls; and training and education for members	327,683	-	(327,683)	-
GOA, Labour - Hazards of DV for Safer Work Sites	46,337	-	(46,337)	-
GOA, Labour - Awareness Tools for Alberta Employers of Workplace Violence	20,000	-	(7,937)	12,063
GOA, Labour - Safe Workplaces, Safe Women: OH&S Collective Capacity	15,484	-	(15,484)	-
GOC, WaGE - Leading Change 2018 Grey Cup	18,246	25,000	(43,246)	-
				<i>(continues)</i>



Financial Statements

**ALBERTA COUNCIL OF WOMEN'S SHELTERS
Notes to Financial Statements
For the Year Ended March 31, 2020**

5. DEFERRED CONTRIBUTIONS - OPERATING *(continued)*

	2019	Funds received	Revenue recognized	2020
GOC, WaGE - Promising Practices To Support Survivors and their Families	29,940	-	-	29,940
GOC, WaGE - Building Collective Capacity	-	115,325	(89,199)	26,126
GOC, WaGE- Enhancing women-centred practice	-	208,565	(118,025)	90,540
Muttart Foundation- Project Impact training	-	5,000	-	5,000
Shoppers Drug Mart- Love You Fund	-	79,056	(360)	78,696
Total project deferred contribution	940,699	460,828	(814,489)	587,038
Unearned revenue				
Membership fees received in advance	20,500	-	(20,500)	-
Training fees received in advance	7,400	575	(7,400)	575
	27,900	575	(27,900)	575
Casino funds				
Casino restricted funds	71,462	82,450	(62,465)	91,447
	\$ 1,040,061	\$ 543,853	\$ (904,864)	\$ 679,060

ACWS - Alberta Council of Women's Shelters
AFL - Alberta Federation of Labour
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, 2020

6. 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>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
Balance, Beginning of Year	\$ 4,886	\$ 6,515
Add:		
Contributions received	141,511	-
Less:		
Amortization of deferred capital contributions	<u>(5,031)</u>	<u>(1,629)</u>
Balance, End of Year	<u>\$ 141,366</u>	<u>\$ 4,886</u>

7. 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>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
Stabilization reserve The Organization has established a stabilization reserve to hold three months of operating expenses.	\$ 322,000	\$ 282,000
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	103,193
Equipment reserve The Organization has established a reserve for future capital equipment purchases.	30,000	25,000
Moving/Renovation reserve The Organization has established a reserve for moving and renovation expenditures.	15,000	10,000
Social Enterprise fund The Organization has established a fund to ensure program stabilization and expansion.	<u>237,139</u>	<u>182,684</u>
	<u>\$ 707,332</u>	<u>\$ 602,877</u>



ALBERTA COUNCIL OF WOMEN'S SHELTERS
Notes to Financial Statements
For the Year Ended March 31, 2020

8. 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, 2020, are as follows:

2021	\$ 25,560
2022	25,560
	<hr/>
	\$ 51,100

9. 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, 2020.

(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.

10. COMPARATIVE FIGURES

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



ALBERTA COUNCIL OF WOMEN'S SHELTERS
Grants Schedule
For the Year Ended March 31, 2020

(Schedule 1)

	2020	2019
Alberta Historical Resources Foundation	\$ -	\$ 12,548
Canada Alberta Job Grant	1,900	2,267
Canada Summer Job Grant	-	-
City of Edmonton	-	16,500
Edmonton Community Foundation	1,025	-
Edmonton Heritage Council	1,129	6,024
Family Business Connect	-	3,069
GOA - Community & Social Services		
Operating Grant	995,420	295,420
Measuring Impact; Training & Education; DVWP; Engaging		
Men & Boys	327,683	1,011,092
Aboriginal Communities	164,065	61,806
GOA - Justice & Solicitor General	-	-
GOA - Status of Women	-	15,000
GOA - Labour		
OH&S Collective Capacity	15,484	4,516
Safer Worksites	46,337	3,663
Awareness Tools	7,938	-
GOC - Justice	6,000	6,000
GOC - Women & Gender Equality		
2018 Grey Cup	43,246	51,754
2019 Safest Grey Cup	212,000	-
Building Collective Capacity	89,199	-
Enhancing Women's Safety	118,025	-
Safety from Domestic Violence	-	101,614
Promising Practice	-	60
Leading Change Inspired Communities	-	8,942
Member Contribution Fund	-	43,720
Shoppers Love You Fund	1,304	-
	\$ 2,030,755	\$ 1,643,993

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