



# ANNUAL REPORT 2016

**Kamloops Sexual Assault  
Counselling Centre**

# Kamloops Sexual Assault Counselling Centre



## CONTENTS

A Message from our President	3
Programs	4 - 11
The Strength of Partnerships	12
Funders/Donors/Supporters	13
Events	14
Accomplishments/Looking to the Future	15
Agency Coordinator Report	16

## MISSION

Kamloops Sexual Assault Counselling Centre is a feminist organization that supports individuals who have experienced sexualized violence. We provide counselling, support services, advocacy, education and prevention.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2015 - 2016

**Judy Reed** - President

**Debi Kalinin** - Vice President

**Janet Chiorando** - Treasurer

**Marcus Durante** - Secretary

Directors:

**Kathy Kendall**

**Chelsea Corsi**

**Kalie McIntosh**

**“Start by doing what’s necessary; then do what’s possible;  
and suddenly you are doing the impossible.”**

*Francis of Assisi*

## A Message from our President

As I reflect on this past year of transition and renewal, I am so very proud of all we have accomplished! We pulled together to enhance and strengthen the presence of KSACC in our community.

Our Agency Coordinator, Charlene Eden, was hired just prior to our 2015 AGM and together with the Board, Charlene's leadership has resulted in a new passion, energy and strategic focus for KSACC. Our focus has been on working towards agency sustainability, increased visibility, re-establishing partnerships and expansion of services. We have also put a great deal of effort into updating policies and procedures.

As a Board, we participated in a governance workshop that led painlessly (at least from my perspective - I didn't hear any grumblings) into strategic planning. This was a very productive collaborative exercise in which staff and Board worked separately and then came together and shared ideas. As a result, we have a plan and clear direction and focus for decision-making on a daily basis and for the next few years.

On behalf of the Board, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all our amazing staff. Without your professionalism and commitment the centre would not function, and our clients and community would not be served. Thank you Sharon, Jody, Pearl, Tara, Pat, Barb, Mevonny and Laura for all you do and all you bring to your work.

Over this year, the Board has experienced movement: Kalie McIntosh was elected at the AGM; and Chelsea Corsi was appointed in the fall. Both bring youth and unique gifts. Ava Perraton elected at the last AGM stepped down for personal reasons. Janet Chiorando has been ill but we are fortunate to have her back now and Marcus Durante is still travelling. Debi Kalinin, Kathy Kendall and I continued. We are pleased to welcome our new members and their contributions. I can't imagine how this year would have gone without Debi and Kathy and their steadfast presence.

On a personal note, as I step down, I would like to express my heartfelt appreciation to everyone involved in my journey with KSACC and for the opportunity to be of service. I leave with confidence in the future for KSACC; we have built on the foundation and are moving forward.

Judy Reed  
Board President

# CBVS

The Community-Based Victim Service program provides information and emotional support to female and male victims involved in criminal cases of partner assault; sexual assault; and criminal harassment and stalking.

## Court Process • Community Education/Information • Third Party Reporting

Individuals accessing the program learn about the court process, roles of court personnel along with the role of the witness. A CBVS worker accompanies the victim and/or family members to court and other justice system-related meetings and helps victims fill out the numerous court documents related to the case.

The program is also designated to fill out Third Party reports which allows victims to report a sexual assault anonymously. CBVS also conducts public awareness and education services within the community.

CBVS also provides education and information on the battering cycle; use of power and control; safety issues; and the effects on children who witness violence. Safety planning is a key component within the program. CBVS also works to ensure clients are referred to and connect with other important sources of support within the community.

CBVS works closely with community partners, receiving referrals from a variety of sources including Policed-based Victim Services, Crown Counsel, Probation and other key community stakeholders.

CBVS has made an increased effort over the past year to inform the community of the service, providing presentations to a multitude of community organizations and actively participating in community events such as the December 6th Shoe Memorial, TRU Back to School BBQ, Project Homeless Connect, International Women's Day and a presentation at a local high school in conjunction with the BC Lions and EVA BC's "Don't Be a Bystander" project.

---

## 35-45

Active caseload of clients at any given time

---

"I don't know if I could have gotten through this if you had not been here. You helped me a great deal, thank you.

- CBVS Client

---

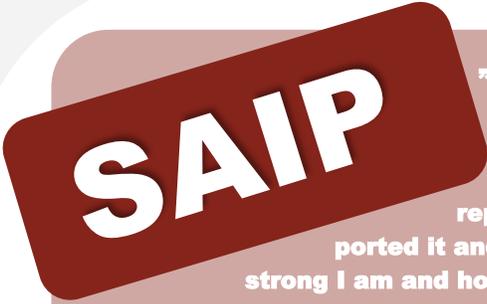
## 50

People for a total of 110 hours in court

---

"Thank you for being here to help support this victim, I think CBVS has helped her to stay calm and focused."

- Crown Counsel



**"It's amazing to look back at who and where I was last year and how much growing and healing I have gone through. Even though this is the toughest thing I've been through (having been raped and going through reporting process), I wouldn't change the fact that I reported it and came to counselling because it's made me see how strong I am and how much insight I have about myself and my future."**

**- 16 year old female client**

The Sexual Abuse Intervention Program provides counselling and support services to children and youth ages 3 to 18 who have experienced sexual abuse or are suspected to have been sexually abused or assaulted. To strengthen the victim's healing process, counsellors also provide support, consultation and referrals to non-offending parents, guardians and family members. The program also actively works within the community to provide education on sexual abuse intervention and prevention.

In the past year, our SAIP counsellors worked with over 120 children, youth &

family members. To be more responsive to the needs of youth, the SAIP program participated in structured outreach services to schools within School District 73. SAIP counsellors increased their wraparound services for family members, providing parents a safe space to talk about their struggles, challenges, fears and concerns and to challenge their own understanding of their child's experience.

SAIP has also continued to partner with other community organizations and agencies to ensure a continuum of care for children and youth.

**"The highlight of this type of work is always being able to witness a client grow and heal from their initial trauma stage and see their transition in healing into growth and acceptance."**

**- SAIP Counsellor**

**TOTAL CHILD & YOUTH CASES: 113**

<b>Age 12 &amp; under:</b>	<b>Age 13-18:</b>
<b>23 females &amp;</b>	<b>71 females &amp;</b>
<b>15 males</b>	<b>4 males</b>

---

**133.5**

---

Hours of school outreach

**STV**

**The Stopping the Violence program provides counselling and support services to adult women who have experienced sexual assault, violence and/or abuse in relationships, or childhood abuse.**

Counsellors provide specialized individual counselling from a feminist, anti-oppressive, anti-violence lens, focusing on each woman's individual strengths and resilience.

The program also provides group counselling in partnership with other community partners. These groups encourage peer support and promote relationship and skill building. The Stopping the Violence program also provides support and advocacy services, understanding that clients who are connected are more empowered and safe.

Over the past year, KSACC's three Stopping the Violence programs (Kamloops, Chase and Logan Lake) have worked hard to connect with community and ensure there is greater awareness of the program. This year has also been about increasing outreach services to promote increased access. All three STV programs are also once

again linked to provincial allies, participating in partnerships and collaborating with Ending Violence Association BC (EVA BC) and other STV and sector partners.

**"People appreciate a safe place to be able to talk about something that isn't really talked about in society - or at least understood"**  
**- STV Counsellor**

**"The first problem for all of us, men and women, is not to learn, but to unlearn."**  
**—Gloria Steinem**

**STV**

## KAMLOOPS

The Kamloops program has continued to be incredibly busy, with demand for individual counselling services remaining ever present. The program continues to work in partnership with the Kamloops Y's Violence Against Women Intervention and Support Services to deliver Women's Relationship Groups for survivors of violence.

STV counsellors have worked to maintain their level of service excellence, and to ensure they are responsive to client need. The program has also been intentional in enhancing partnerships that promote wraparound services for women accessing the program.

**"Recognizing the cycle of abuse has set me free. Recognizing the impact that this relationship has had on my children has opened up the doorway for healing for my family."**

**- STV Kamloops client**

**STV**

## LOGAN LAKE

The Logan Lake Stopping the Violence program has spent this past year focusing on increasing its connectedness and solidifying partnerships with other community organizations as a means to better support women within the community. In particular, STV Logan Lake has worked closely with the Logan Lake

Wellness Health and Youth Society (WHY) to support women in Logan Lake. STV also ran a Girls' Group that provided participants a safe place to discuss challenging issues while promoting peer support amongst participants.

**"Thursdays are my favourite day because I get to come to girls' group and talk about what's on my mind/bothering me."**

**- STV Logan Lake client**

# STV

# CHASE

The Chase Stopping the Violence program is run out of a quiet little office in the heart of Chase. Women often comment that they find the office space relaxing.

The STV Counsellor largely provides one-on-one counselling, with the time spent in the office looking different for each woman. Some choose art while others prefer to sit and talk. As with the other STV programs, the women accessing STV Chase vary in age and come from diverse cultural backgrounds.

Over the past year, Chase's STV Counsellor has spent a great deal of time building community partnerships with other community service providers.

The STV Counsellor participates in the Chase and Area Mental Health and Wellness Committee which meets monthly to share program information, identify service gaps and to talk about concerns. The committee consists of community members, professionals from Chase and the surrounding area, and Village Council members.

**"We (community of Chase) are fortunate to have the STV program in our community. The programs are amazing!"**

**- Chase service provider**

**"Here's to strong women.  
May we know them.  
May we be them.  
May we raise them."**

**- Unknown**

# CWWA

## CHASE and surrounding area

The Children Who Witness Abuse program provides counselling and support services to children and youth aged 3 to 18 who have been exposed to or witnessed abuse, threats or violence in the home but who are not currently in a crisis situation.

KSACC's CWWA Counsellor provides a safe and relaxing environment for young people to discuss their experience of trauma; talk about their feelings and fears; and to learn to manage their response to the exposure of violence. The program aims to teach children and youth non-violent ways of resolving conflict and to promote the process of healing. Art projects, nature walks and games are some of the ways these goals are addressed.

Over the past year, KSACC's CWWA counsellor has continued to create and enhance community connection, meeting with local schools and community members to keep them informed of the program and referral process. There has also been a focus on finding innovative ways to partner and promote healing in children and youth.

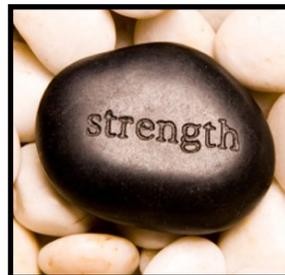
Chase and the surrounding First Nations communities are very supportive of CWWA,

making regular referrals to the program and collaborating on services. CWWA is also now connected on a Provincial level with other Children Who Witness Abuse workers to facilitate resource sharing and information.

The program has also been actively involved in community events such as the Kindergarten Fair, Red Ribbon Ceremony and Rotary Chase meeting.

**"I love it here. I really enjoy the art we do together and working on the puzzle."**

**- 6 year old participant**



# COUNSELLING FOR MEN

KSACC provides counselling services to male, non-offending victims of sexual assault and historical childhood sexual abuse. We are the only organization in the community that provides this service free of charge.

Over the past year, we have seen an increase in the number of male clients requesting our services. We have also seen the positive impact this service can have for the men who have the courage to walk through the door and ask for help.

**“I never realized that the sexual abuse had impacted my whole life. Identifying the sexual impact has been very freeing. For so long I have felt that I have to be the ‘macho man’. Now I can just be me. I have a gentle heart. I never allowed that.”**

**- 70 year old male client**

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

**- Margaret Mead**

# GIVING VOICE

**Giving Voice is a provincial grant created to assist Indigenous communities to end violence against Indigenous women and girls. The 2 year project, which wraps up in November 2016, has been very successful and led to a number of training and educational opportunities:**

- **Indigenous Communities Safety Project:** The ICSP project was delivered to 3 urban Indigenous agencies and 2 First Nations communities. Each agency and community created safety plans unique to the needs of their individual communities.
- **Indigenous Gang Awareness Workshop:** Indigenous RCMP delivered a gang awareness workshop to KSACC staff and 3 Indigenous agencies.
- **Presentations to Indigenous Girls Groups** in the Kamloops School District.
- **Be More Than a Bystander Program:** Two Indigenous BC Lions football players attended the 2nd Annual Kamloops Aboriginal Youth Conference.
- **Risk Assessment and Safety Planning Workshop:** As a result of the ICSP training, the need to provide additional training for front line workers was identified. A Risk

Assessment and Safety Planning workshop took place in Kamloops and included attendees from Indigenous agencies from the BC Interior. Participants have requested additional training and KSACC will continue to work in partnership with EVA BC and Indigenous communities in hopes of meeting these needs.

**“I have gained more knowledge and understanding of the issues and barriers of violence - which can translate into better services we can provide.”**

**- Indigenous Communities Safety Project (ICSP) participant**

**“Nothing changes when it is not talked about. Silence and lack of outrage enables violence and abuse against Aboriginal women and girls to continue as if it were normal.”**

**- Paulette Flamond  
Minister's Advisory Council of Aboriginal Women (MACAW)**

## **The Strength of Partnership - Thank you!**

KSACC would like to thank our many community partners who work with us to support individuals in our community.

---

**Adams Lake Indian Band**

**ASK Wellness**

**BC Society of Transition Houses**

**Canadian Mental Health Association**

**Chief Atahm School**

**Child & Youth Mental Health**

**Crown Counsel**

**Elizabeth Fry Society**

**Ending Violence Association of BC**

**Family Tree Family Centre**

**Interior Aboriginal Friendship Society**

**Interior Community Services**

**Interior Health**

**Kamloops Aboriginal Friendship Society**

**Kamloops Cariboo Regional Immigrant Society**

**Kamloops Interagency Case Assessment Team (KICAT)**

**Kamloops Women Resource Group Society**

**Kamloops Y Violence Against Women Intervention and Support Services**

**Lil Michif Otipemisiwak Family and Community Services**

**Little Shuswap Indian Band**

**Logan Lake Health Centre**

**Logan Lake Secondary School**

**Logan Lake WHY**

**Ministry of Children & Family Development**

**Neskonlith First Nation**

**Police-based Victim Services**

**Q'wemtsin Health Society**

**RCMP**

**School District 73**

**Secwepemc Child and Family Services**

**Thompson Rivers University**

## KSACC is grateful for funding support from:



## Thank you to our donors & supporters!

**Eileen McBride**

**Kenneth Plugoway**

**Barb Turner**

**Mary Strandt**

**Westcan Aircraft Sales  
& Salvage**

**Diana Voelkner**

**Janet Kusler, M.D.**

**Kevan Bates  
& Manulife**

**Shawn Wenger**

**Angelo Fontana**

**Donna Gibson**

**Canada Helps**

**Lenn Korobanik**

**Kamloops Firefighters  
Charitable Society**

**United Way - Toronto  
(Karen Miller)**

## EVENTS WE HAVE PARTICIPATED IN:

**BE MORE THAN A  
BYSTANDER  
w/BC LIONS & EVA BC**

**KAMLOOPS  
SHOE MEMORIAL**

**ADDICTIONS  
AWARENESS  
FAIR**

**TREC  
FAIR**

**CHILD & YOUTH  
MENTAL HEALTH  
& SUBSTANCE USE  
BUS TOUR OF KAMLOOPS**

**MISSING & MURDERED  
INDIGENOUS WOMEN**

**RED RIBBON  
CEREMONY**

**BC COLLABORATES  
CONFERENCE**

**PROJECT  
HOMELESS  
CONNECT**

**INDIGENOUS  
CULTURAL DAY**

**CHASE  
MEN'S HEALTH  
FAIR**

**WOMEN'S HISTORY  
FORUM**

**ELIZABETH FRY  
SHINING THE LIGHT  
ON VIOLENCE  
CONFERENCE**

**CHASE  
KINDERGARTEN  
FAIR**

**TRU  
BACK TO  
SCHOOL  
BBQ**

**INTERNATIONAL  
WOMEN'S DAY**

**UNITED WAY  
HOMES FOR  
THE HOLIDAYS**

**ABORIGINAL  
YOUTH  
CONFERENCE**

**TAKE  
BACK THE  
NIGHT**

## WHAT WE ARE **PROUD** OF IN 2015-2016

- Being a member of EVA BC & BCSTH
- Stronger connections with community agencies and partnering with them on projects
- Giving Voice
- Funding for Sexual Assault Response Team (SART)
- Strong leadership through Agency Coordinator and Board of Directors
- Providing client-focused service in the form of 503 new contacts/referrals & 2,194 appointments

“One of the greatest accomplishments achieved by KSACC this year was the creation of successful partnerships with Ending Violence Association of BC (EVA BC), Indigenous communities and other community agencies.”

- STV/SAIP Counsellor and Clinical Supervisor

“In this last year I believe that the KSACC team has become stronger, more united. The operations process is more transparent and inclusive. KSACC has become more involved in the community and has also reached out and included the community”

- STV/CWWA Counsellor

## WHAT WE ARE **EXCITED** ABOUT FOR 2016-2017

“I am excited to see how KSACC will evolve in the future. I can’t wait to witness the changes. I wonder what will change and what will stay the same. I do know that KSACC will continue to be an important part of the community of Kamloops, Logan Lake and Chase. I see pride and client-centered work in the future of KSACC services.”

- STV/CWWA Counsellor

“I am excited for ongoing community partnerships, ongoing workshops and education presentations to Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities and working in an agency that has greater structure and direction.”

- STV/SAIP Counsellor

“I am excited about the formalizing process and the future stability.”

- STV/SAIP Counsellor

# AGENCY COORDINATOR REPORT

What a year it has been! I would first like to say what an absolute honour and privilege it is to be KSACC's new Agency Coordinator. I never dreamed when I volunteered at KSACC in my early twenties that I would eventually become its leader. I am truly grateful to be a part of this incredible team and to work side by side with such dedicated, passionate staff and Board members.

As I reflect on this past year, a number of words keep coming to mind: commitment, connectedness, and intention. It has certainly been a rewarding year but not without its challenges. We are going into KSACC's 35th year and much of this past year has been about rethinking and shifting the way we have historically operated and governed. There have been growing pains at time but through it all, the team has remained steadfast in its commitment to client-focused service and to KSACC's feminist, anti-oppressive, anti-violence roots.

Re-establishing lost partnerships and heightening community presence was a major focus and we have certainly come a long way in just one year. We have pounded the pavement to reconnect and build up existing partnerships in the three communities we work in. These partnerships have been crucial to implementing outreach services; heightening collaborative service; ensuring KSACC's presence at the local and provincial level; and promoting confidence in the Agency as a whole. This confidence is evident in the re-establishment of numerous partnerships including the United Way Thompson Nicola Cariboo; City of Kamloops; Interior Health; Ending Violence Association of BC; and so many others. We have also maintained all major funders and have found support in new funders who clearly believe in the path we are forging for the Agency.

This would not have been possible without a clear focus on intentionality. From Board Development and Strategic Planning to changes in policy, procedure and practice, the entire team has worked hard to create a realistic, yet exciting pathway for the Agency moving forward. So many exciting shifts on the horizon but one in particular stands out: the reestablishment of KSACC's Sexual Assault Response Team in partnership with Royal Inland Hospital, RCMP and other community partners.

I would like to extend a sincere thank you to all of our funders, donors, supporters, and partners who have been there with doors wide open as we write this new chapter. We could not have achieved what we have over this past year without you. And lastly, I would like to applaud our clients for their courage to embark on this journey. Your strength and resilience show us that anything is possible!

The future of KSACC is bright. KSACC's history, strong team, partnerships and intentional planning for the coming years provides the foundation we need to continue supporting individuals who have experienced sexualized violence and to be a strong voice in the fight against sexualized violence.

Charlene Eden  
Agency Coordinator