

KSACC

KAMLOOPS SEXUAL ASSAULT
COUNSELLING CENTRE



Annual
Report
2023

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TERRITORY ACKNOWLEDGEMENT & COMMITMENTS



Kamloops Sexual Assault Counselling Centre is located on the territory of the Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc people. Our work takes place in both Secwepemcúl'ecw and Nlaka'pamux territory. We extend our deepest gratitude to the traditional caretakers of these territories.

KSACC also acknowledges our complicity in colonial systems. As we work to decolonize our practice, we must be accountable for the harm that social service agencies and the justice system have perpetuated against Indigenous people, and how our organization has benefitted from colonial structures and white supremacy. As we stand in the discomfort of facing this truth, we commit to the principles of justice, equity, humility, and relationship building.

The link between ongoing colonial violence and gendered violence is strong. We recognize that the Canada many of us know was built on Indigenous lands without consent. Manipulation and violence have been, and continue to be, used to control Indigenous peoples' bodies and lands through colonialism.

Importantly, alongside every act of violence exists a parallel story of resistance to that violence. We recognize and honour Indigenous peoples historical and ongoing resistance to both colonial and gendered violence. We commit to leveraging any power and privilege we have to support and amplify this resistance and resilience.




SECWEPEMCTSIN LANGUAGE



Indigenous nations and communities have continuously shared the importance of language revitalization and integration.

This feels especially poignant in anti-violence work where we often talk about the impact of specific language choices and where our work is geared toward responding to and changing the systems that cause harm, including colonialism.

We encourage everyone to use existing resources to learn (at least) the basics of Secwepemctsin, as you would if you were visiting any other country where you don't speak the language.

 *weyt-k / weyt-kp*
[wey](t-k) / [wey](t-kp)
Hello / Hello (to more than one)

 *kwséltkten*
[k'wsé](tkten)
Family, cousins, relatives

 *kukwstsétsemc*
(kukw)[stsé](tsemc)
Thank you

 *stemét*
(ste)[mét]
Friend

Some places to learn more include:

[FirstVoices.ca](https://www.firstvoices.ca) - click on the "Explore Languages" button at the top of the page and scroll down
[LearnSecwepemc.trubox.ca](https://www.learnsecwepemc.trubox.ca) - TRU's free, 4 part online learning course

SECWEPMCTSIN LANGUAGE



You can also learn more by following social media accounts, including @secwepemctnem on Instagram who shares a range of words and phrases. We have selected a few that are particularly relevant to the work we do.



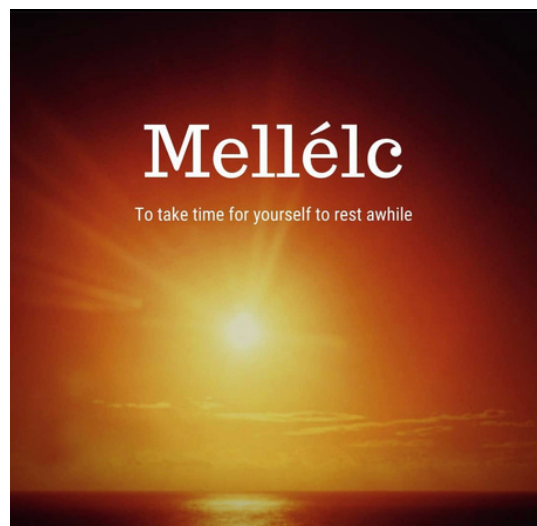
(Take care of one's self)



(Take care of each other)



(Respect one another)



(Take time for yourself to rest a while)

2023 AGM Theme



GROW

When we think of growth, we often think of the final stages, where all things are in bloom or fully matured. In reality, though, growth is an ongoing process that requires time, nurturing, and embracing change.

Just like a plant needs sunlight and nutrients to grow, organizational growth requires the right environment and resources. This year was one of reevaluating resources and setting up the ideal conditions for blooming. It required collective effort in envisioning new ideas and committing to learning, adapting, and taking on new challenges.

In all cases, growth requires patience and a willingness to embrace change. It's not always easy, and there may be setbacks along the way, but with dedication and perseverance, the seeds we plant can grow into something beautiful and meaningful.

As we move through the 2023/2024 fiscal year, we look forward to walking alongside survivors, staff, volunteers, community partners and the greater Kamloops community in our synergistic growth.



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.

BELIEFS

Sexualized violence is never justifiable.

Fear of sexualized violence is a factor in the development and behaviour of women, girls, 2SLGBTQIAP+, and individuals whose identity may increase their risk of sexualized violence.

The intersectionality of all aspects of an individual's social and political identities overlap and contribute to their experiences with oppression and violence.

Community, family, relationships, and natural support systems are important factors in healing.

Sexualized violence is a gendered issue. It is rooted in patriarchy and colonialism.

Violence is a community issue, not a personal issue.

Sexualized violence is about power and control that is expressed in a sexually violent way.

Those who are victimized are never responsible for the violence that is perpetrated against them.

VALUES

Sexualized violence is an umbrella term that encompasses a range of violence including: intimate partner violence (IPV), domestic violence, gender-based violence, sexual assault, and sexual abuse.

1. KSACC is a feminist organization, practicing from an anti-oppressive lens. We believe that each person who accesses our services has the right to determine the best ways for us to work with them.

2. KSACC works hard to ensure that our services are accessible to all members of the community. We listen and advocate for minimizing barriers to accessing services.

3. KSACC works from a collaborative perspective. We practice collaboration within our staff team, with other local agencies, and with the people who access our services.

4. KSACC sees confidentiality as a cornerstone of all services that we provide.

5. KSACC strives to ensure that clients receive timely services.

6. KSACC prioritizes and encourages the self-care of our members, employees, volunteers, board directors, the community, and people who access our services.

7. KSACC ensures that our processes are as transparent as possible to our membership, the community, and the people we support.

8. KSACC values reflective practice. We consistently and intentionally review our policies and practices to ensure that they align with our values and beliefs.



MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

CHLOE BARTON

Weyt-kp (Hello),

It is with immense gratitude to the staff, volunteers, and members that I submit this report on behalf of the KSACC Board of Directors. It is an esteemed honour to have served as President of the Kamloops Sexual Assault Counselling Centre (KSACC) Board of Directors for the past two years.

This has been one of the most challenging reports to write, which is indicative of the past year of operations. Typically, these reports highlight milestones, celebrate achievements, and provide a preview of what's to come. In addition to reporting on the above noted, I've also taken this opportunity to reflect on our resiliency in the face of adversity. Thank you in advance for reading this necessary report.

As you may know, the responsibility of the Board of Directors is ultimately governance, oversight, and major decision-making, representative of staff, client, funder, community partner, and member interests. The Board of Directors works collaboratively with KSACC Leadership to ensure the sustainability of operations.

If you will, imagine a beam balance with Governance and Operations on either side; finding a balance is possible, but when you pool more resources on either side of the beam, one will outweigh the other. KSACC historically has one person, the Agency Coordinator, in a leadership position. When our current Agency Coordinator Alix went on maternity leave in March 2022, the KSACC Board had to pool more resources and focus on operations out of necessity. This meant fewer governance-related goals were accomplished, but we are confident the year ahead will offer time and space to rebalance!

Each Board Member brings a unique skill set and individual experience to our Board Table, together creating collective and divested external experience. We have the utmost confidence in our abilities to maintain and elevate our Board Duties. While a board needs to have oversight and awareness of operations, the operational support needed in Alix's absence largely fell outside of our typical roles and responsibilities as Board Members. We quickly learned that not having someone with comprehensive operational knowledge to maintain continuity in the AC's absence was harmful to the board and staff alike. It compromised the segregation of duties and asked folks without adequate capacity to take on very large, charged workloads. I acknowledge and applaud the well-intended and collective effort of my fellow board members, and I also acknowledge the impact and challenges that this past year has had on KSACC staff.





President's Message Continued...

To valued KSACC Staff,

Despite the challenges you were presented with over the past year, you continued to provide an unmatched level of client support. You supported one another. You vulnerably shared the trials and tribulations you face in this line of work. You advocated not only for our clients but also for yourselves. You fiercely advocated for equitable pay and a livable wage, for greater work/life balance, and cultural safety within the workplace. While I believe these are your fundamental rights, we are challenging a system that has historically not favoured the work of non-profits in this space; that said, I am proud of how the KSACC Board of Directors has stepped up and responded to your valid concerns.

To summarize our collective achievements since our last Annual General Meeting, we have:

- Successfully piloted a 4-day work week
- Increased vacation days for new KSACC staff
- Increased Wages in alignment with the CSSEA Wage Grid
- Provided a one-time \$1,000 bonus for full-time staff (prorated for part-time staff) in light of the increase in cost of living
- Expanded our KSACC Leadership Team and created a new Programs Manager position
- Created a Funding Committee which successfully secured over \$150,000 in new funding.

This work could not have been done without your support, and for that, I am indebted to you.

The operational support that was provided by the Board, while outside of our scope of practice, proved to be mutually beneficial as a learning opportunity for Board Members. While we realize this insight came at a great cost, we feel our Agency has better future-proofing mechanisms in place to ensure the sustainability and continuity of our operations, which directly impact our staff, clients, volunteers, and community members. The increased awareness, connection, and understanding will help to inform our future decision-making.



In August, we welcomed back Alix Dolson in a full-time capacity. Alix resumed her position as Agency Coordinator after a maternity leave with her second born, Juniper. Alix's absence was felt by our entire community, and we are grateful for her return. During her leave, Alix made herself available to our Interim Agency Coordinators, Jenn and Meaghan. In addition to her mentoring, Alix was also readily available for consultations and support as required by our Agency. While this is not ideal for a new mother, Alix stepped up in every way to ensure the continuation of our operations. Alix's absence created an awareness of the enormous workload and responsibility for continuity that was concentrated in her one-staff position. An operating model like this is unsustainable and poses a risk to the organization. Alix helped us to understand that it is paramount to have a second staff person with comprehensive operational knowledge to assume the Agency Coordinator's responsibilities as needed.

As such, we are delighted to announce the creation of the Programs Manager role. In addition to assuming Agency Coordinator responsibilities when needed, the position is responsible for managing, coordinating, and providing day-to-day business direction including supervision of direct client services staff, reporting, operations, public education, and community engagement. The successful candidate for this position is none other than Meaghan Hagerty.

With this change comes the announcement of Meaghan's resignation from the KSACC Board of Directors. Since her election in 2022, she has made significant strides within our Agency. Meaghan started as an engaged board member who is well known for her inclusive leadership, effective communication, and unique perspective. Following several months on the Board of Directors, Meaghan took a leave of absence from the Board to support KSACC as acting Agency Coordinator. In her time as Interim Agency Coordinator, Meaghan's leadership was steadfast. She has proven to be a valuable asset to the KSACC workforce. While we will miss Meaghan's invaluable contributions to our Board, we are elated that we still get to work closely with her in her new role as Programs Manager.

As I am expressing my gratitude for our leadership within KSACC, I would be remiss not to extend my many thanks to Jenn Johnson. Jenn assumed the role of Interim Agency Coordinator at the beginning of Alix's parental leave. Despite the many obstacles the role presented, Jenn's leadership was unwavering. Jenn led with compassion, integrity, and grit. Thank you, Jenn! In addition to her leadership duties, Jenn kindly introduced us to Sarah Fletcher Daniels, who generously supported the Board in starting to streamline our governance. In her own words, Sarah recognizes that "Nonprofit organizations are working to address some of the community's most pressing needs, often with very limited resources. It can be challenging to stay on top of governing and managing everything - programs, people, and finances." Her signature Cadence workshop helped us to develop "a holistic, practice-based approach that builds on current strengths and can be adapted as circumstances change."

The KSACC Board of Directors looks forward to implementing the Cadence Framework and engaging with Sarah again in the future. If you feel this framework would benefit another community non-profit, please don't hesitate to direct them to sarahfdaniels@gmail.com to learn more!



Exiting the KSACC Board of Directors alongside Meaghan are Avery Pottle and Mandy Jean. All departing Board Members will be greatly missed, and the impact of your leadership will be felt for years to come. The Agency's future is stronger because of the time you dedicated as a Board Member, which in turn has supported the sustainability of our operations.



I would like to extend a special thanks to Mandy Jean;

Mandy has served KSACC as a Board Member since 2017. As a Chartered Professional Accountant (CPA), Mandy has significantly improved our Financial Operations in her time with the KSACC Board of Directors. Mandy is well known for being meticulous. She is a trusted industry expert and one of the most approachable people I have had the opportunity to work alongside. These traits, amongst others, have made her the ideal Treasurer for the past 6 years. All will feel Mandy's departure. To ensure a seamless continuation of the Treasurer's responsibilities, Mandy has graciously offered to train our new Treasurer, Bongani (Bongo) Mafulela. Bongo and Mandy share designations, amongst other attributes. Bongo is inquisitive, highly responsive, and kind. His curiosity, creative thinking, and industry experience make him the perfect successor for this role.

Mandy, thank you for your leadership, commitment, and support.



As we say goodbye to exiting Board Members, we embrace our newly nominated Board Members. Each year our Nominations Committee helps to attract, interview, and recommend candidates for the next term of Board Members. Historically, this work has been no easy feat and 2023 was no different. This year brought a fantastic selection of Board Candidates for 4 available seats.

Thank you to our 2023 Nominations Committee – Trevor, Chloe, Avery, and Laura! Your efforts do not go unnoticed. We look forward to welcoming the successful board nominees to the 2023/2024 Board of Directors.

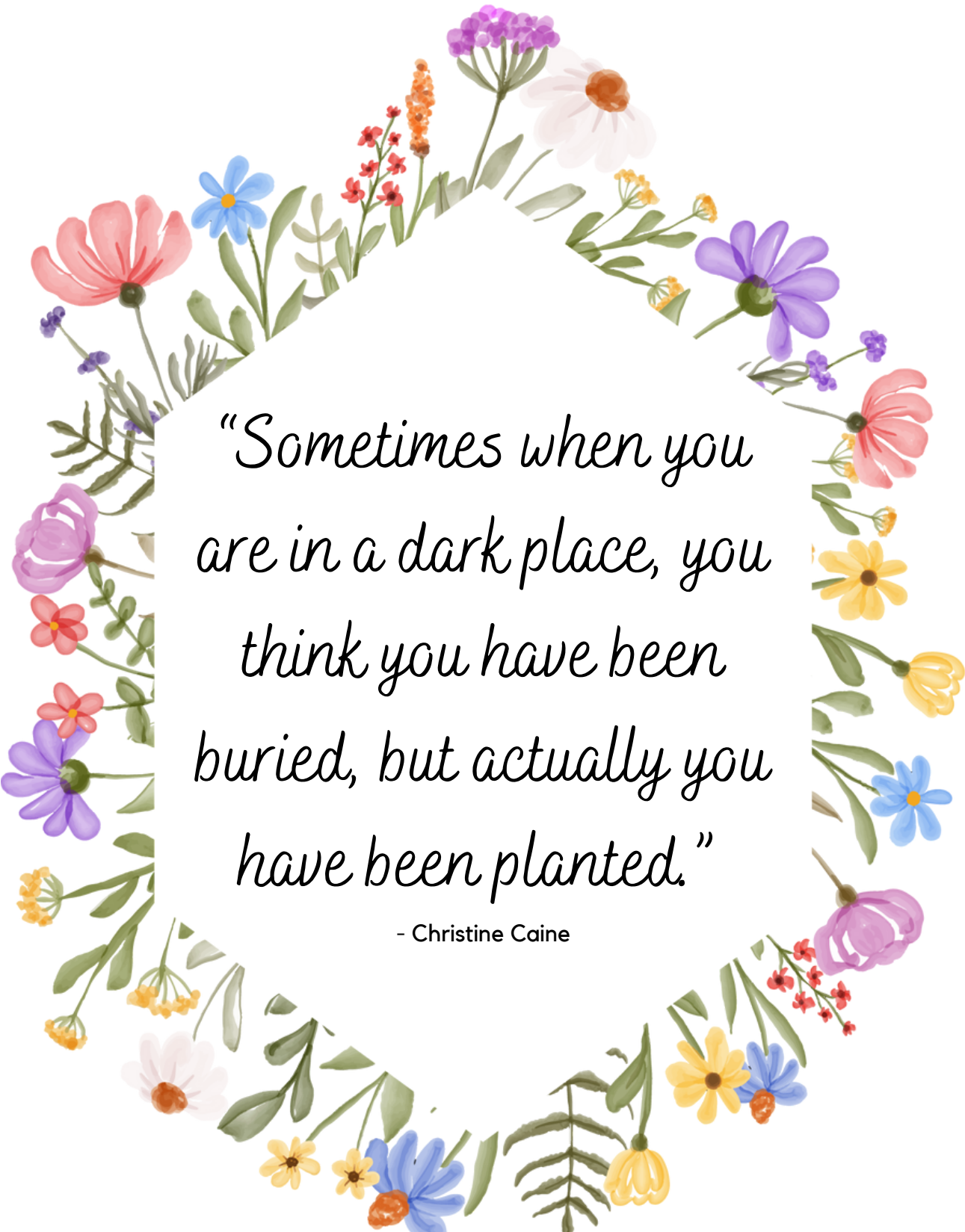
Some observations from the past year which are guiding our current undertakings -

- **Human Resource Management** - When faced with HR challenges, we quickly realized we did not have any HR experts supporting our operations. In response, we hired Dr. Shelly Dean (Bonnah), Ph.D., RCC, AAMFT. Shelly helped to identify opportunities within our current operating model and supported us in working towards a collective care model. In addition to working with Shelly, we also strategically diversified our board nominees to include HR experts. Several of the board nominee candidates for 2023/2024 are leading HR experts within our community. This expertise will help to round out our board and better support our operations through our dedicated HR Committee.
- **Policy** – The policy was in the process of being finalized. It was drafted in partnership with Barb Gladdish, KSACC Leadership, and our Policy Committee. While the policy was nearly complete, it had not fully been approved by our Board of Directors. This made our policies bewildering between old and new. We have since made minor amendments to our policy and it is currently being reviewed and escalated to the wider board for approval. Our commitment is to review and approve the policy manual in its entirety as soon as possible.
- **Strategic Planning** – The last strategic planning session was held in 2019. With the growth of our operations and expansion of our current offerings, we are due for a Strategic Planning session! We intend to see this through in 2024.
- **Board to resume governing position** - As our KSACC leadership is stronger than ever, the board will return to Board Governance. We will still oversee operations but have relinquished operational control. This will allow us to maintain our segregation of duties.
- **Enhanced Digital Experience** - As a result of a successful grant application, KSACC will be enhancing our digital experience. This will streamline our operations, better safeguard client information, and help to future-proof our organization in the event we are required to pause in-person counselling again (COVID-19).

While I have experienced intense and mixed emotions in writing this report, I am left feeling excited, hopeful, engaged, and at ease. Each year, I am reminded of how resilient our staff, volunteers, and agency are. As we step into 2024 as a collective, I find comfort in knowing we have the right resources and right people in place to support our continued growth.

I would once again like to thank our staff, volunteers and members for your continued effort and support for KSACC.

In closing, I'd like to share a quote that is reflective of this year's Annual General Meeting theme, GROW.



*"Sometimes when you
are in a dark place, you
think you have been
buried, but actually you
have been planted."*

- Christine Caine



MESSAGE FROM OUR AGENCY COORDINATOR

ALIX DOLSON
(she/her)



The past year has been a time of transition, change, and growth for KSACC. While the year was not without challenge, I am excited about the work that was done to build and strengthen our organization.

As we further emerge from the isolation of the pandemic, the realities of gendered violence have persisted; now more than ever, survivors are seeking support and community. I celebrate the boldness, bravery, and resilience of survivors as they seek justice and healing in a world riddled with broken promises and harmful colonial systems. In the face of trauma and hurt, survivors across the country are demanding better, and I am cheering them on.

Good anti-violence work requires community, and KSACC partnered with many organizations this year to provide supports and advocacy throughout the region. We hosted our annual Take Back the Night event in partnership with Kamloops Immigrant Services, Elizabeth Fry, and YMCA BC. We connected with policing and protection partners on high-risk cases through the local ICAT table, helping to keep our community's most vulnerable safe. We shared information and built relationships with social service providers at the Violence Against Women in Relationships group, ensuring we know what supports exist and where to connect our clients. We listened, learned, and advised on the Kamloops Elizabeth Fry Society's Gender Equity project, helping to make sure that our community is engaging in important conversations. We partnered with TRU on a research project related to sexual harassment in the restaurant sector, contributing to knowledge building that will improve interventions. We participated in Consent Cafes, making sure that kids in Kamloops have access to unbiased and factual consent education. We tabled at community events, provided trainings to other organizations and businesses, and shared information on our social media channels. KSACC has done the work of relationship building and advocacy, and I am proud of the positive impact that is having on our community.

Agency Coordinator Message Continued

Our client service programs continued to provide critical support to survivors. In Kamloops, Logan Lake, Chase, Ashcroft, and beyond, survivors from all walks of life received counselling and victim service support, along with 24-hour crisis response. Our work has been client-centred, and while not always easy, I draw inspiration from both our clients and staff. In this work, we don't always get the opportunity to celebrate successes, but they are happening. The everyday operations of the Kamloops Sexual Assault Counselling Centre are making a difference. The staff and volunteer team at KSACC have done a phenomenal job of supporting survivors in this region.

As a community, Kamloops and everyone throughout Secwepemcúl'ecw continue to confront the atrocities and ongoing colonial harm of Canada's treatment of Indigenous people. KSACC continues to work, and fail, and try again to walk in the right relationship with Indigenous people, and in particular the Secwépemc caretakers and knowledge keepers of this territory. It is with immense gratitude that we get to do this work in this territory, and we take the responsibility seriously. As KSACC moves forward with our plans for growth, we do so through a lens of cultural safety, decolonization, and re-indigenization. We commit to developing our internal policies and processes in accordance with the recommendations in the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls for Justice and the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women's Report's Calls to Action.

This year was not without challenges. Compounding climate crises, staffing shortages and turnover, the rising cost of living: each of these challenges increases pressure on staff, and makes an already challenging job even more difficult. Despite being on parental leave for much of the year, I saw just how hard the staff worked to try and prevent these stresses from impacting client services. I am so proud of the work that they did, and the integrity with which they did it.

As we look towards the next year, I know we will encounter many challenges; the work of ending gender-based violence continues. But over the last year, and indeed the last 40 years, we have planted seeds that have taken root and are starting to bloom. Our relationship with Indigenous partners is strengthening. Programs are growing and changing. Societal attitudes towards gender equity are shifting. Policymakers and leaders are recognizing our unique expertise, and are asking for input. The work is never done, but I am so excited about where this organization is headed. With the direction of our membership, staff, and board, Kamloops Sexual Assault Counselling Centre will continue its work of client-centred support and disruptive advocacy. Together, we will make Kamloops a safer, kinder, and gentler place for survivors of violence.

Much love and gratitude,

Alix



Financial Reports



Mandy Jean
Board of Directors
Treasurer

The fiscal year ended March 31, 2023 marked my fifth full year acting as treasurer of KSACC and I would like to, once again, express my appreciation for the work that the Agency does and for allowing me to be a part of it. This has been my final year on the Board and I have learned so much during my term. I acted as a member of the Finance subcommittee which works to review financial policies and procedures and ensure financial compliance, responsibility and risk management and make recommendations to the Board of Directors.

The Agency strives towards a break-even budget each year. The Financial Statements for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2023 show a loss but the Agency remains in a healthy financial position and the Agency will continue to work towards a break-even point in the future.

The Board of Directors has reviewed and approved the financial statements for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2023.

Additional Funding Secured



The creation of a Funding Committee and the evolution of the Finance and Fund Development Manager role increased KSACC's capacity to secure for additional funding in the 2022/2023 year. Successful applications and campaigns resulted in new funding:

\$88,000

to improve the digitization of the organization



COMMUNITY
FOUNDATIONS
OF CANADA



United Way
Centraide
Canada



CANADIAN
RED CROSS



\$67,000

to support the work of the Crisis Line

\$18,000

in general donations from the community



We believe you.

我们相信你

हमें आप पर विश्वास है

Nous te croyons

私たちはあなたを信じています

Nosotras te creemos

نحن نؤمن لك

nós acreditamos em você

Programs



STOPPING THE VIOLENCE (STV) KAMLOOPS

The Stopping the Violence Program is funded through the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General. The STV counsellors at KSACC provide safe, supportive, and confidential one on one counselling to women 19 years and older who have experienced sexualized violence. This includes historical childhood sexual abuse, sexual assault, and intimate partner violence. Women, self identifying women, and individuals who identify as non-binary, are able to access STV counselling through self-referrals, community based agencies and programs, Police Based Victim Services, and Community Based Victim Services.

The demand for service is at a record high in KSACC's 40 year history. During the year, KSACC saw an increase in clients who were deemed high risk and who are navigating other significant challenges including unsafe or unaffordable housing, complex mental health concerns, and substance use as a coping mechanism. We continue to see STV clients whose children are also seeking SAIP services.

KSACC continues to maintain a waitlist for STV services, and clients typically wait between 8 to 12 months to see an STV counsellor for one on one counselling. We are optimistic that we will be able to connect with survivors with an STV counsellor quicker in the coming year as all of our positions are currently filled.



The STV Kamloops counsellors are Aidan, Hailey, Serena, and Maureen

STOPPING THE VIOLENCE (STV) CHASE

STV in Chase continues to keep one part-time counsellor very busy. The outlying rural areas of Sorrento, Pritchard and the North Shuswap provide high numbers of referrals, and telephone/virtual counselling has helped to reduce barriers. While there is still an ongoing waitlist for services, this year saw a decrease in wait times that went from 9-12 months down to 1-3 months. This was largely due to the addition of a PEACE counsellor sharing some of the workload.

The ongoing Bush Creek East wildfire in the North Shuswap has drastically increased vulnerability and risk for clients evacuated from, or isolated in, the affected communities. Classified as "out of control" into September 2023, the fire led to a spike in requests for services involving life-threatening gender-based violence, as well as wildfire-related grief and loss. This trend is expected to continue as the Shuswap community recovers from the impacts of this disaster.

The Chase STV Program continues to work closely and build on valued connections with Chase Police Based Victim Services, Chase Mental Health & Substance Use Services, and the Adams Lake, Neskonlith and Skwłāx Bands.

STOPPING THE VIOLENCE (STV) LOGAN LAKE

KSACC is grateful and honoured to be able to do their work in Logan Lake and Ashcroft on the traditional territory of the Nlaka'pamux and Secwépemc Nations.

We have a counsellor offering services in these communities one day per week. We continue to build relationships and connections with Ashcroft Mental Health, South Cariboo Elizabeth Fry Society, and Ashcroft and Logan Lake Police Based Victim Services. With these connections, the counsellor receives referrals to support women identified survivors who have experienced gendered violence.

We know that those in smaller communities face increased challenges due to a lack of supports and resources available in their home community, and our goal is to make KSACC services as accessible as possible. In response we offer a flexible schedule for phone, Zoom, or in person counselling sessions.

The STV Chase counsellor is Kate
The STV Logan Lake counsellor is Aidan



Additional Counselling Supports



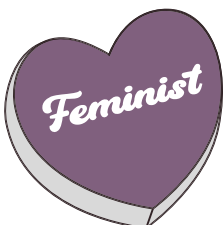
GROUPS KAMLOOPS

After a hiatus in group offerings due to staffing challenges, we are excited to be planning for a relaunch of groups in the fall. In partnership with the YMCA BC's Violence Against Women Intervention & Support Services, we will be offering groups for peer support, psychoeducation and grounding. Groups are being designed for folks who are currently on the waitlist.

MALE COUNSELLING KAMLOOPS

KSACC provides counselling services to male, non-offending victims of sexual assault and historical childhood sexual abuse. The male counselling program at KSACC is funded by a Community Gaming Grant from the Government of British Columbia, and we continue to fundraise and seek grant opportunities that would allow us to support more male survivors of sexualized violence.

The past year saw an increase in demand for services for individuals who were deemed high risk for mental health concerns. Male counselling also maintains a waitlist as the community demand exceeds our current capacity to offer the service.



Intersectional feminism recognizes that socially constructed systems of power and privilege shape people's lives in unique ways.

To liberate anyone, we must liberate everyone.

We are grateful for the activists, communities and scholars who have taught us about Intersectionality. We aim to listen to, learn from and amplify their voices.

Justice System Navigation



COMMUNITY BASED VICTIM SERVICES (CBVS) KAMLOOPS

Community-Based Victims Services (CBVS) is funded through the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General and supports victims navigating the criminal justice system. KSACC's CBVS support workers are the only people in Kamloops who can help individuals complete a Third-Party Report. Through this program, we support children, youth, and adult survivors of violence. The supports are available to survivors of all genders. We are also now offering emotional support and accompaniment to family court for individuals who are victims of intimate partner violence.

This year we wished Jody Beesley well as she moved into retirement after being the CBVS worker for decades. Our new CBVS workers continue to support clients through the challenges of the legal system, including confusing processes, case cancellations, lengthy adjournments, conflicting and limited information, barriers to accessing additional supports, and the ongoing harm caused by going through the system.

Despite the challenges of working with and in the legal system, partnerships have thrived and are essential to mitigating harm. KSACC appreciates the support and collaborative work done with local shelters, the RCMP Sex Crimes team, Police Based Victim Services, the Interagency Case Assessment Team, the Violence Against Women in Relationships community roundtable, Big Bear Child and Youth Advocacy Centre, and Crown Counsel.

In 2022/2023, CBVS staff assisted 6 clients in filling Third Party Reports, this is the most we have ever done in 1 year.

The CBVS workers are Laura and Aidan

Children & Youth Programming

SEXUAL ABUSE INTERVENTION PROGRAM (SAIP) KAMLOOPS AND CHASE

The Sexual Abuse Intervention Program (SAIP), funded by the Ministry of Children and Family Development, provides one-to-one counselling to children and youth ages 3 to 18 who have experienced sexualized violence. The program also offers family support to non-offending parents and caregivers, as well as children under the age of 12 who are exhibiting problematic sexual behaviours. This year we have been able to extend some SAIP hours to our Chase office.

The program has seen a continual increase in clients with additional mental health diagnoses, behavioural concerns and complex trauma history as well as families seeking support for multiple children. This has led to a higher demand for counsellor coordination within the program and liaison work with other care providers. Family support has continued to be an important part of the SAIP program to ensure parents and caregivers are given the necessary tools to support their children at home.

Staffing SAIP has been an ongoing challenge due to contractual obligations requiring all counsellors to have a Master's degree. This led to an increase in the wait times for service, but with the hard work of new counsellors, we have cut the waitlist in half. We maintain a comprehensive triage protocol, where client priority is determined by the SAIP counsellors at the initial meeting using a tailored risk assessment procedure. Providing appropriate resources and referrals to other community agencies remains an important part of this protocol.

Due to the huge success of last year's "Trim the Toyroom" campaign, KSACC once again teamed up with Tumbleweed Toys this Christmas to help bring in new supplies for our therapeutic playroom. This campaign generated new toys, art supplies and other therapeutic tools for both the Kamloops and Chase offices. KSACC is grateful for the generous donations from community members which has a big impact on the SAIP program's ability to provide quality care to our youngest clients.



The SAIP counsellors are Hailey, Maureen, and Shannon

Children and Youth Programming

PREVENTION, EDUCATION, ADVOCACY, COUNSELLING AND EMPOWERMENT (PEACE)

CHASE

The Prevention, Education, Advocacy, Counselling, and Empowerment (PEACE) Program provides counselling and support services to children, aged 3 to 18 years, who have experienced violence in their homes. The PEACE counsellor in Chase uses psychoeducation, play therapy, art therapy and mindfulness practices to help children and youth understand their experiences of violence, manage their responses, and work through difficult emotions.

The combination of impacts from the COVID-19 pandemic and the wildfires continues to create complexity and increased demand for services in the Chase area. The PEACE program maintains a waitlist for services.

The PEACE program also received additional funding to provide the Violence is Preventable (VIP) presentations in schools for the 2023/2024 year. VIP presentations are intended to increase awareness of the effects that domestic violence has on students while connecting those experiencing violence to counselling.

The PEACE counsellor in Chase has continued to build on collaborative and supportive relationships with Haldane Elementary and Chase Secondary schools, which both generously provide counselling spaces for the program. The PEACE counsellor has maintained a strong working relationship with Chase Child & Youth Mental Health, the Chase Wellness Committee, Chase Police-Based Victim Services, and Secwépemc Child & Youth Family Services.



The PEACE counsellor in Chase is
Shannon

Crisis Response



ANTI-VIOLENCE CRISIS RESPONSE KAMLOOPS

KSACC's Anti-Violence Crisis Response program waded through many challenges and successes throughout the fiscal year, ending on a high note by securing continuous, ongoing funding from the provincial government. KSACC will continue to provide Kamloops and surrounding areas with acute support for survivors of sexualized violence through the 24/7 crisis line and hospital accompaniment.

A highlight of Anti-Violence Crisis Response was the introduction of forensic kit storage at Royal Inland Hospital in September 2022. Following this exciting announcement, KSACC saw an immediate increase in hospital accompaniment referrals.

Moving forward, Anti-Violence Crisis Response hopes to continue finding meaningful ways to connect with survivors. Community engagement, collaboration with partners such as RCMP and Interior Health, and reducing barriers to services are top priorities.

From March 2022 to March 2023, we supported survivors through:

33

hospital accompaniments

408

crisis calls

3,512

volunteer hours on the crisis line

VOLUNTEERS



2022/2023 was a busy year for KSACC volunteers! KSACC volunteers are integral to the 24/7 crisis line, providing survivors of sexualized violence with emotional support, safety planning, resources, and referrals. Throughout the year, KSACC provided numerous volunteer training sessions, where folks received thorough training to feel empowered to provide support to survivors. With consistent recruitment, KSACC has built a roster of 20 dedicated volunteers. A heartfelt thank-you to our incredible team of volunteers!

Madeline coordinates the Anti-Violence Crisis Response Program



A heartfelt thank-
you to KSACC's
extraordinary
2022-2023
volunteers!



Community Connection

EDUCATION PARTNERSHIPS & PROJECTS

KSACC continues to provide educational opportunities and support to local organizations and schools on topics on broad topics like healthy relationships, supporting survivors and consent culture as well as on more specific topics like mandatory reporting of suspected child abuse and neglect.

KSACC worked closely with various partners at Thompson Rivers University on a range of projects including: research engaging the service industry, building tailored resources for international students, and the delivery of Consent Cafés. We look forward to continuing these partnerships and are excited about the renewed funding for research and community engagement in the service industry.

KSACC also partnered with Kamloops Immigrant Services, the YMCA BC's Violence Against Women Intervention and Support Services and The Elizabeth Fry Society to host a very successful Take Back the Night event and march in October 2022. We look forward to continue being leaders in advocacy events such as this. and TRU World to create a resource guide for international students affected by gender-based violence.



CLIENT AND MEMBER SUPPORT

The Client and Member Support Coordinators are the invaluable first voice and face most clients and members come in contact with. They have been working hard to streamline our processes and make information and connections more accessible for clients, staff and agency members. They are also making their way through a check-in with folks on our waitlist to get a better sense of how we can best support people.

The KSACC Connect newsletter continues to be built and sent out monthly. We encourage anyone with suggestions or topics they'd like to see to email ksacc@ksacc.ca

Lindsey and Sarah provide Client and Member Support as well as Education and Community Outreach





In the 2022/2023 year,
we provided counselling for

213 adults

in Kamloops

35 adults

in Chase

90 children & youth

in Kamloops

25 children & youth

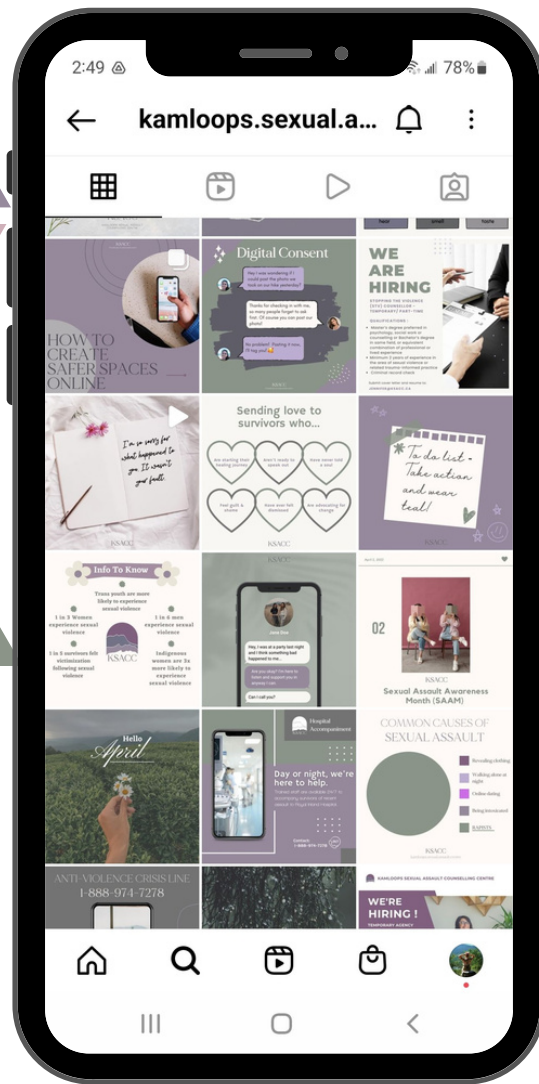
in Chase


We provided Community
Based Victim Services for

117 adults

in Kamloops

SOCIAL MEDIA




 Kamloops Sexual Assault Counselling Centre


 805 Followers


51, 875 People Reached 

 150+ New Posts


 683 Visits

Shoutout to Madeline for keeping our social media presence so great!

 kamloops.sexual.assault.centre

 1,039 Followers

16, 778 People Reached 

 150+ New Posts

 2,194 Visits

Professional Development

Training Completed by Staff

Using Cognitive Behavioural Therapy

Using Acceptance and Commitment Therapy

PEACE Program training

Using Dialectical Behaviour Therapy

Home on Native Land

Community Based Victim Service Training

Cultural Humility

Cultivating Safe Spaces



Gathering Our Medicines: Cultural Rituals as Emotional Playgrounds

San'yas Indigenous Cultural Safety

Using Play Therapy

Learning Network Webinars

Core Foundations 2: Specialized Knowledge for Anti-Violence Work

Core Foundations 1: Introduction to Gender-Based Violence

Core Stopping The Violence Counselling Training

Canadian Psychological Association annual national convention



Chloe Barton
President



Justene Dion-Glowa
Vice - President



Mandy Jean
Treasurer
(Exiting Member)



Trevor Penner
Secretary

Board of Directors 2022 - 2023



Kaitlin Lomas
Director at Large



Cecile Tucker
Director at Large



Avery Pottle
Exiting Member



Meaghan Hagerty
Exiting Member



Bongani Mafulela
Director at Large

Thank you to our partners!

Anti-violence work is best done in collaboration and community. We could not do our work without our partners. We appreciate and offer gratitude to you all!

- Adams Lake Indian Band
- Ashcroft Victim Services
- Ashcroft Mental Health Services
- Chase Police Based Victim Services
- Chase Child & Youth Mental Health
- Ending Violence Association of BC
- Elizabeth Fry & Legal Clinic
- Kamloops Immigrant Services
- Kamloops Inter-Agency Case Assessment Team
- Lii Michif Otipemisiwak
- Skwlax (Little Shuswap) Indian Band
- Secwepemc Child & Youth Family Services
- School District 73
- South Cariboo Elizabeth Fry Society
- Interior Health
- Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc
- Thompson Rivers University (TRU)
- Kamloops RCMP & Police Based Victim Services
- Tumbleweed Toys
- Neskonlith Indian Band
- BC Society of Transition Houses
- Big Bear Child & Youth Advocacy Centre
- Violence Against Women in Relationships
- Kamloops Aboriginal Friendship Society
- Community Response Network
- Kamloops Mental Health & Substance Use
- Kamloops Child & Youth Mental Health
- YMCA BC Kamloops Violence Against Women Intervention and Support Services

**You are
enough.**

KSACC