

Ki-Low-Na Friendship Society

2020—2021 Annual Report





Mission Statement

The Ki-Low-Na Friendship Society will provide for the mental, emotional, physical and spiritual well-being of all peoples through the development of community-based services, while encouraging the community to preserve, share and promote Aboriginal cultural distinctiveness.

Table of Contents

Message From the President	3
Message From the Executive Director	4
Organizational Structure	5
Reports	
Administration & Finance	7
Health, Safety, and Facilities Report	8
Housing Operations	9
Reaching Home Community Entity	10
Community Kitchen	11
Margaret’s Landing Housing Project	12
Events & Volunteer Coordinator	13
xw-i-ale cecemala: Kids Come to Life (Youth Justice)	14
Skəmxist Preschool	15
Ki-Low-Na Cecemala (Youth Program)	16
Aboriginal Supported Child Development	17
A Child’s Roots are Forever	18
Aboriginal Infant Development Program	19
KFS Families (CAP-C)	20
Family Support	21
Family Assessment	21
Supervised Access Visitation	22
Family Den	25
Women’s Health Initiatives	25
Family Law Advocacy	27
knxit i? snqsilx ^w Help the Relatives (Legal Clinic)	27
Poverty Law Advocacy	28
KFS Strategic Development	29
For Our Health	30
Language Instruction for Newcomers to Canada	31
Addictions Counselling	33
Mental Health Services	34
Elder Activities	35
Indigenous Wellness Worker	36
Outreach Services	37
Employment Services	39
Disability Tax Aid	40
Images	
Responding to a Pandemic	6
Turtle Island Festival (Through the Years)	23
Support From Our Community	26
Our New Canadians, through the years	32
Our Elders, through the years	35
Our Staff	41
Our People	46
Agenda & Minutes	
2021 Annual General Meeting Agenda	42
2020 Annual General Meeting Minutes	43
2020 Extraordinary General Meeting Minutes	45

Message from the President

As we finish another year of operations at Ki-Low-Na Friendship Society, I am reflecting on all that has happened in the last year for the Society. This year saw many successes for the Friendship Society in adding various new programs and staff, but it wasn't without its hardships. Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, the staff at the Friendship Society continued to offer adapted services to clients. This bravery hasn't been overlooked and I'm exceptionally thankful to have them working for the betterment of our community. The level of altruism displayed during the past 16 months has been nothing short of awe inspiring. As we eagerly look onto a post COVID-19 reality, we are excited for what projects and services we'll soon be able to offer.



As more and more Canadians begin to get vaccinated, we can soon look forward to a wider breadth of in-person programming, which is exciting! I'm also certain that the developments we'll be seeing in the near future at Margaret's Landing will be welcomed with open arms. We are also looking at expanding further in our downtown core offices, but perhaps that'll be mentioned in next year's President's report. And as always the wonderful staff will continue to support our community throughout their various programs and events.

We are continuously grateful to our valuable partnerships with different levels of government, other service providers, and our local business community. Without these various stakeholders we would not have the breadth and depth of services we currently offer. I'd also like to extend a warm thank you to my fellow members of the Board of Directors, the staff, and our volunteers. I feel extremely fortunate to know such passionate, empathetic, and hardworking individuals.

Unfortunately, many of the events where we would typically see each other have been cancelled, but I know I will see many familiar faces in the coming months as we continue reintegrating into each other's lives. The world is continuously changing, but I can take solace knowing that the Ki-Low-Na Friendship Society can offer stability as we continue to offer beneficial services to the community we live in.

Thank you | Kukstemc

Francis Lampreau
President

Board of Directors

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Youth Member: Genna Moyer



Message from the Executive Director

Wai xast sxelx?at inca iskwist sem put t'kw,

As always, it is an honour to provide an annual report to our community and members. What a year this has been with the COVID-19 pandemic filtering in on every aspect of our lives. Who would have thought what was coming, and how it would change how we do everything? Being an essential service provider, we had to adapt to COVID-friendly service provision. Keeping staff safe was our number one priority, along with keeping our clients safe.



Adjusting our programs took a lot of team planning to create safe interactions with families, clients, and staff. Who heard of Zoom before COVID-19? More learnings to add to our list. Normally, we offer programs throughout the week, and as an Indigenous community, food is a huge part of the programs. We decided to offer hot lunches every Tuesday and Thursday to 220 clients, delivered by staff and volunteers. Some staff chose to meet their families in parks or on the land for their programs, while others made weekly craft kits to drop off to families. Some offered smaller classes, offered twice per day to ensure everyone had the opportunity to participate.

Some staff had the option to work from home. A few staff chose to take medical leave. Stress has played a big part during the pandemic. We learned to work as a team and to rely on each other more. It was important to bring in people who specialized in wellness and healing for staff, to help them deal with a stressful workplace due to the fears and uncertainties of the pandemic. Many thanks to our Board of Directors for their continuous support during this challenging year.

Margaret's Landing was ready for families to move in in October 2020. All 36 apartments and 14 townhouses were filled, and a waitlist established. i-spa-us ki-low-na apartments have an ongoing waitlist as all 86 units are filled. That speaks to a huge need to build more affordable housing units in Kelowna. Skæmxiŋ, our Indigenous Day-Care and Pre-school is planned to be built by September 2022 at the Margaret's Landing site.

We continue to be innovative, and build to meet the needs of our community. New programs are added to assist our homeless population to seek shelter, food, and other basic needs. Youth and children are supported with laptops or iPads to help them with homeschooling. To assist the Elders in technology navigation, small workshops on how to use a cell phone, laptop, or iPad were provided.

None of our regular annual events were canceled; only modified to meet pandemic-related safety protocols. One example, Sisters In Spirit, was adapted to be held out in front of the Centre, practicing COVID safety.

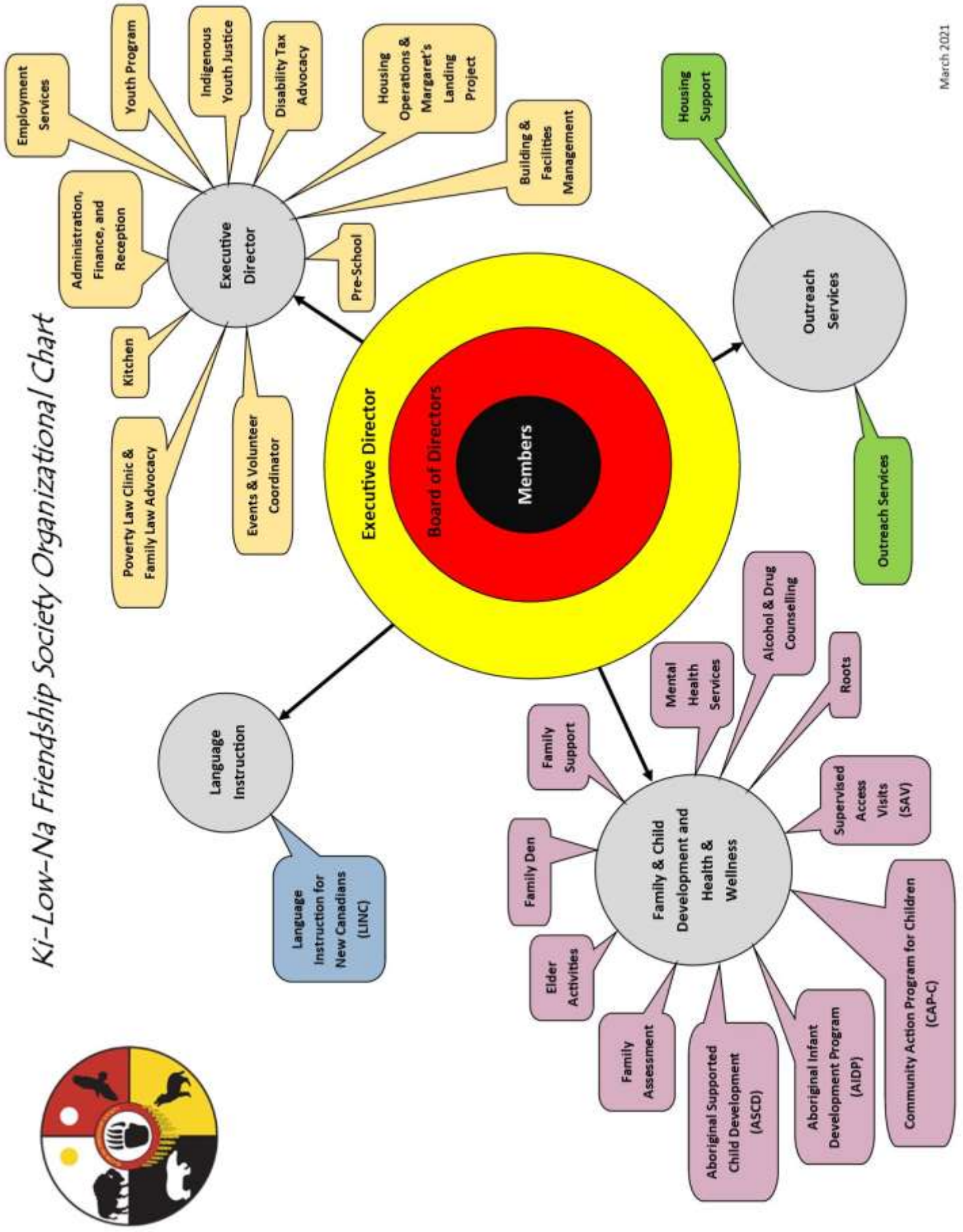
Limlemt to our Board of Directors, staff, volunteers, and community members for their strength, hard work, and resiliency to continue to meet the many needs of our people who walk through our front doors.

All my relations,

Edna Terbasket
Executive Director



Ki-Low-Na Friendship Society Organizational Chart



Responding to a pandemic...



Administration & Finance Report

It has been an active and challenging year at the Ki-Low-Na Friendship Society (KFS). The financial position continues to be strong, and we have been able to adapt and meet the challenges imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic.

KFS has been the recipient of significant pandemic-related funding through Federal and Provincial governmental sources, and also private foundations. This has allowed us to provide twice-daily meal deliveries to our people, provide “basic needs” packages, hire additional staff to support safety protocols such as increased janitorial support, staff to greet clients at the door, additional kitchen staff, and additional Outreach Workers to meet the increasing needs of our people on the street. We have also used funding to improve infrastructure, as physical safety protocols have been needed, provide needed personal protection equipment (PPE), and to also support more on-line activity.

Our new subsidized housing project at Margaret’s Landing was completed in October 2020, and the first tenants were welcomed in at the end of that month. The project was completed early and under budget, despite the pandemic-related challenges faced by our contractors during the construction process. Many thanks to our core project partners: VanMar Constructors, Innovative Housing Consultants, and Patrick McCusker Architecture.

We are also grateful for a significant increase in individual donations to KFS through the Canada Helps service. This service allows individuals to donate on-line easily via Interac or credit card, set up recurring donations, and receive tax receipts. On average, we receive approximately \$2,000.00 per month in individual donations! Many thanks to those who are supporting our activities through not only donations, but also volunteering!

Jeremy Bowers
Program Administrator



Health, Safety, and Facilities Report

Our programs and services operate from a number of locations: our main offices at 442 and 477 Leon Avenue in downtown Kelowna; i spa-us ki-low-na—our affordable housing in the Central Green neighbourhood; the Family Den in the Rutland neighbourhood; Margaret’s landing subsidized housing in the Black Mountain neighbourhood, and Skæmxist Preschool at Quigley Elementary School. We also operate two 15-passenger vans, two mini vans, and a cargo trailer.

Through capital improvement funding we received this year, the following projects were completed:

- New front doors were installed at our 442 Leon Avenue building.
- Audio-visual improvements were made to the Boardroom and Okanagan Room to better facilitate on-line meetings, events, and other media.
- A new steamer, and a stock-pot range were installed in the kitchen.

We experienced a major roof leak and flood in the 477 Leon Avenue building, which had to be remediated, and required an insurance claim. The leak was caused by a blocked roof drain. Annual inspection of all roof drains by a qualified plumber is now part of regular maintenance on all flat-roofed buildings. Mould remediation and replacement of a large window was also completed in the 477 Leon Building.

Our Health and Safety Committee, consisting of a wide representation of staff across all areas of operations, meets regularly to ensure that health and safety issues, and policies are addressed.

All buildings and vehicles are in good repair, and all necessary inspections are up-to-date. All required licensing and certification of buildings, facilities, systems, and vehicles is current. Many thanks to Noel Ferguson who keeps everything in good repair.

The COVID-19 pandemic has had an impact on our buildings and facilities. A COVID-19 plan is in place and is reviewed monthly and updated as necessary to reflect changing public health and WorkSafeBC requirements and best practices. Our lobby is no longer open to the general public. Admission to all buildings is by appointment only. Room capacity restrictions have been implemented, as well as mandated health checks, contact tracing, social distancing, and face covering requirements. Large indoor group activities have been cancelled indefinitely, and our signature event, Turtle Island Festival, was cancelled in 2020 for the first time in its more than 25 year history. We will continue to innovate and adapt as conditions demand, but we do look forward to the day that we can move our operations back to a more “normal” footing, and again hear the laughter of children in the Okanagan Room, and welcome our community, in-person, to Turtle Island Festival.

Jeremy Bowers
Program Administrator



Housing Operations

This has been a busy year for our Housing Operations. Our affordable rental housing at i-spa-us ki-low-na is now in its fourth year of operations, and continues to be full with a lengthy waitlist. Our community is vibrant and thriving!

The building is beginning to show the signs of four years of steady use, and hallways are now being extensively repainted, and some landscaping features updated. The Community Garden continues to thrive, and every Saturday, breakfast is available by donation in the amenity room.

We also opened our new subsidized rental housing at Margaret's Landing in October 2020! Our first tenants moved in at the end of October, and as of March 2021, all units are occupied and there is also a waitlist. Like i-spa-us ki-low-na, Margaret's Landing is a vibrant and active community. Wellbriety circles, Womens' Circles, and Mens' Circles have been meeting regularly in the amenity room, and we also have a Tenant Support Worker who works on-site part-time.

The COVID-19 pandemic has had its impact on our two communities. Cleaning of high-touch surfaces has been increased in frequency, group activities have been cancelled or adapted to meet pandemic-related safety guidelines, depending on public health orders, and masks are mandatory in all common areas. Unfortunately, there have been a few isolated instances of COVID-19 among our tenant community.

Noel Ferguson works tirelessly to keep both properties looking great and in excellent repair.

Rhonda Worthington
Property Administrator

i spa-us ki-low-na is operated in partnership with the Aboriginal Housing Management Association, BC Housing, and the City of Kelowna.

Margaret's Landing is operated in partnership with the Aboriginal Housing Management Association and BC Housing.



Reaching Home Indigenous Community Entity

In February 2021, KFS signed a contract with Service Canada to become the new Reaching Home Indigenous Community Entity. Reaching Home is an initiative of the Federal Government, through the Ministry of Employment and Social Development Canada, to address issues surrounding homelessness in communities across the country. There are two designated streams of funding for the Kelowna area through the Reaching Home initiative: the Designated Community and the Indigenous Community. This funding is administered on behalf of the Federal Government by a Community Entity.

Until now, both funding streams were administered by the Central Okanagan Foundation. KFS's Outreach Services have been a "sub-project" partially funded for several years through this initiative. All sub-projects that are funded through this initiative are approved by a Community Advisory Board (CAB), and until now, one CAB has overseen both funding streams. KFS has been a member of this CAB since its inception, and continues its membership.

Now, the Indigenous Community funding will be administered by KFS acting as the Community Entity starting with the 2021-2022 fiscal year. Initial start-up funding for KFS to assume this role was allocated in February 2021. A new Indigenous Community Advisory Board (IH-CAB) has been established, of which KFS is also a member, and the first sub-project, a continuation of KFS's Outreach Services, has been approved for the 2021-2022 fiscal year.

We are excited about this new partnership, and for being able to bring the administration of Indigenous Reaching Home funding under the auspices of an Indigenous organization.

Jeremy Bowers
Community Entity Coordinator



This activity is a partnership with the Ministry of Employment and Social Development Canada.



Community Kitchen

Our Community Kitchen is a focal point of almost all activities here at KFS. The sharing of food is an integral part of Indigenous culture, and healthy meals are an important part of many of our programs. However, the COVID-19 pandemic has had a significant impact on the conduct of our programs. With in-person group activities canceled, the focus has shifted. Since the early days of the pandemic in March 2020, our kitchen has been producing meals every Tuesday and Thursday for families, Elders, and individuals served by KFS. Each Tuesday and Thursday, approximately 220 meals are prepared and delivered. That's over 480 per week!

Through additional pandemic-related funding, we've been able to hire additional kitchen staff to help with the preparation and packing of meals, and a dedicated group of staff and volunteers deliver meals to our people from Lake Country to Westbank. Sandwiches, snacks, and drinks are always available every day at our front door for all of our people.

We also continue to provide the Saturday Outreach Breakfast, although it is now served "to-go". We have also started handing out "Rail Trail Lunches" on Saturdays after breakfast to our people on the street.

Many thanks to the volunteers who help to make our many delicious meals possible!



Margaret's Landing Housing Project

In October 2020, construction at our Margaret's Landing housing project was completed, and we welcomed our first tenants at the end of that month. Initially planned and funded as an affordable housing project, funding for this project shifted to the B.C Provincial Government's *Building BC: Indigenous Housing Fund*. What this has done is to allow this to be a subsidized housing project, with tenants' rents geared to income. Residents will be required to be of Indigenous ancestry. Construction funding was provided by BC Housing, and on-going operational subsidies will be handled through the Aboriginal Housing Management Association.

Margaret's Landing consists of 49 units: two four-bedroom townhomes, 12 three-bedroom townhomes, and 35 one and two-bedroom apartments. Two of the two-bedroom apartments are designed to be fully wheelchair-accessible.

Construction was completed on-time and under budget despite challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic. Our general contractor, working with trades, was able to maintain proper social distancing and other safety protocols on the site, and still keep on-schedule.

Site preparation and design work was also completed to accommodate the anticipated addition of a building to house a preschool and daycare on the property.

Many thanks to the team that has made this project possible: VanMar Constructors; Innovative Housing Consultants Inc.; Patrick McCusker Architecture; Sage Interior Design; and from KFS: Edna Terbasket, Rhonda Worthington, Noel Ferguson, and Jeremy Bowers.

Jeremy Bowers
Program Administrator



This project is a partnership with BC Housing and the Aboriginal Housing Management Association.



Events & Volunteer Coordinator

Throughout the pandemic, the KFS has brought the community together within guidelines established by Public Health Officer Orders in order to foster connectivity, raise awareness for social causes, and help tackle food insecurity for Urban Indigenous peoples. Thanks to our amazing team of staff and volunteers, we have been able to complete several events during the COVID-19 pandemic: Food Insecurity Meals Program, Cold Weather Clothing Drive, Sisters In Spirit Vigil, Orange T-Shirt Day, and a march for Overdose Awareness Week. Unfortunately, for the first time in its 25+ year history, our celebration of National Indigenous People’s Day—Turtle Island Festival, was cancelled due to the pandemic.

Funding for this activity is provided by the B.C. Association of Aboriginal Friendship Centres—First Citizens’ Fund.



xw-i-ale cecemala: Kids Come to Life (Indigenous Youth Justice Program)

The xw-i-ale cecemala | Kids Come to Life Indigenous Youth Justice program serves youth who are involved with the justice system, with a restorative justice goal.

This program has been underway for just over two years now, here at the Ki-Low-Na Friendship Society (KFS), and it has become a vital component of KFS's spectrum of services for youth. The program provides culturally relevant programs such as reconnection to the land, youth volunteer programs, Elder/youth activities, and individual support plans.

Several youth and their families or supports/caretakers received in-house referrals to other KFS services as part of our "wrap around" approach to service delivery. Additional community partnerships include the Okanagan Boys and Girls Club, School District 23 Indigenous Advocates, the Food Bank, Salvation Army, and St. Vincent DePaul.

The program operates in accordance with Provincial Health Officer orders in relation to COVID-19 safety. The Youth Justice Workers are still diligently working to bridge service accessibility gaps by being able to facilitate meetings with youth and their families in various pandemic-safe locations within the community, such as outdoors, large indoor spaces, and parks. Ride services are continuing as necessary to help youth complete their agreement hours.

This program operates on the beautiful unceded traditional territory of the Syilx people, and has many beautiful surrounding parks, lakes, and hiking trails. The program will continue to incorporate, when appropriate and safe to do so, "out on the land" activities and traditional teachings as part of the youths' individual healing plans.

Sandra (Sam) Hinter
Indigenous Youth Justice Worker

Charity Celesta
Indigenous Youth Justice Worker



Funding for this program is provided by the Department of Justice Canada.



Skæmxist Preschool

Skæmxist preschool runs Monday through Friday. Two classes are held: a three year-olds' class on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm, and a four year-olds' class that is held on Monday/Wednesday/Friday that runs from 9:30 am to 1:00 pm. During the preschool day, the children are provided with healthy snacks and a lunch that follows the Canadian Food Guide, providing the children with nutrition from 3-4 food groups. A maximum of 10 children per class are enrolled. Two staff are employed at the preschool: one Early Childhood Educator with special need certification, and an Early Childhood Assistant. The preschool provides pick-up and drop-off service for families that do not have transportation for their children.

During the school year, which runs from September through June, children are given the opportunity to try many new things, including: field trips into the community such as visiting the pumpkin patch, going to a hair salon, visiting the kangaroo farm, area museums, bowling, petting zoo, and a bakery.

Skæmxist preschool curriculum incorporates Indigenous culture that includes cultural teachers coming into the preschool. These include: nsyilxcæn language teachings, singing, art, and traditional foods for the children to try. The curriculum is play-based, giving children the opportunity to explore, turn take, problem solve, gain independence, and choice taking.

Throughout the year, the children are prepped for their entry into kindergarten. The children are provided with the knowledge and skills that they will need to succeed such as: learning to print their names, shapes, colours, use of scissors, and identifying letters and numbers.

The COVID-19 pandemic has presented challenges. The preschool did not return for regular classes after Spring Break 2020. Regular classes, with safety protocols in place, resumed in September 2020.

Alice Ryder
Preschool Coordinator



Funding for this program is provided by the B.C. Ministry of Children and Family Development.



ki-low-na cecemala (Youth Program)

The ki-low-na cecemala program has experienced tremendous growth throughout this past year. Our new Youth Coordinator, Brayana Petti, has worked very hard to build the program and recruit youth. The program had 27 youth interactions in June 2019, but saw that number jump to 130 by January 2020. Unfortunately, the COVID-19 pandemic forced us to cancel all in-person events and interactions after March 17, 2020.

All Recreation and Culture events were cancelled with the first wave of the COVID-19 pandemic in March 2020. Thankfully, Brayana quickly learned how to connect with the youth on a larger, socially-distanced scale through Facebook Live. She spent the last few weeks of March figuring out how to use the Facebook Live Stream feature, choosing topics, developing lesson plans for each Live Stream, and putting together “Boredom Buster” kits for youth to do at home.

Throughout the rest of the year, our youth team has had to be creative when supporting our Indigenous youth, while still maintaining the COVID-19 restrictions and limitations. Much of our support was focused on interactive on-line workshops and activities that allowed youth a sense of belonging and to remain connected to Indigenous cultures, traditions, and protocols.

We are grateful for a new partnership with the Youth Leadership Society of B.C., based in the Lower Mainland. Representatives met with staff at KFS in September 2020, and we look forward to an ongoing and productive partnership.

Also, Brayana has been representing KFS at the Youth Community Action Table, collaborating with other youth-serving organizations that battle youth homelessness in Kelowna. There are monthly meetings with organizations such as CMHA, Foundry, ARC, and The Bridge Youth and Family Services to discuss at-risk youth in the community, and to stream them into the various services offered in Kelowna. Brayana uses this opportunity to advocate for Indigenous youth facing homelessness and their complex needs.

Brayana Petti
Youth Coordinator



Funding for this program is provided by the B.C. Association of Aboriginal Friendship Centres—Programs & Services funding stream.



Aboriginal Supported Child Development

Our Aboriginal Supported Child Development (ASCD) program is designed for children and youth age five to eighteen who have developmental delays and/or disabilities. Support is offered in a variety of ways, and is flexible to fit the individual child's needs. Services are delivered with a culturally sensitive approach, while keeping the children close to their roots and traditions.

Services vary depending on each child's needs, but some examples of ASCD supports include: play therapy, art therapy, educational games and events, outdoor activities, on-on-one support, small group work, supported academic learning, volunteering, traditional arts, connecting children and families to community resources and events, cooking, life skills, gardening, and much more.

The program has adapted to the COVID-19 pandemic to help with food security, basic needs support, activity kits delivered to families, and program delivery on-line and individually.

Funding for this program is provided by the B.C. Ministry of Children and Family Development.



A Child's Roots are Forever

KFS, in partnership with the B.C. Ministry of Children and Family Development (MCFD), runs the "A Child's Roots are Forever" program. The program ensures that Indigenous children in the care of MCFD have a cultural plan of care that is respecting, preserving, and promoting the child's Indigenous identity.

The goals of the Roots program include connecting Indigenous children with their biological/extended families, community, culture, heritage, and forever families. The Roots program assists Indigenous communities in connecting and reclaiming children and youth in MCFD care. The program nurtures a sense of belonging and connections for children with their birth family, extended family, and community members.

The COVID-19 pandemic has slowed down the process of completing Cultural Safety Agreements this year. The inability to travel and host meetings, as organizations closed their doors with the onset of the pandemic, put a halt to everything. Zoom meetings, teleconferences, and COVID-19 protocol meetings became the norm to ensure that business as usual could continue.

Freda McLean
Roots Practitioner



Funding for this program is provided by the B.C. Ministry of Children and Family Development.



Aboriginal Infant Development Program

The Aboriginal Infant Development Program (AIDP) at KFS provides culturally-sensitive support for families with children ages 0—5 who are at risk or have developmental delays. The program works collaboratively with the Family Support, Aboriginal Infant Development, Community action Program for Children (CAP-C), and other programs at KFS in order to truly provide “wrap around” support to our families.

In particular, we work closely with the CAP-C program to offer parenting, prenatal, and infant development programming targeted to meet the specific needs of families. The AIDP program incorporates all four aspects of the Medicine Wheel to ensure that children and families experience healthy mental, social, emotional, physical, and spiritual growth.

As it is with other programs, we are having to adapt to the circumstances imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic that arose in March 2020. Program offerings have moved on-line with group sessions being conducted via Zoom, in-person group activities have moved outdoors (weather permitting) where proper social distancing can be maintained, and activity kits have been given out to families. We have also worked to ensure food security for families through KFS’s meals delivery program.

Lisa Marsh
AIDP Worker



Funding for this program is provided by the B.C. Ministry of Children and Family Development.



KFS Families (CAP-C)

The Community Action Program for Children (CAP-C) at KFS was re-named two years ago to “KFS Families”. It is a community-based program that promotes the healthy development of young children (0-6 years of age), to increase the health and social development for Indigenous families and children. While every CAP-C site is unique, they all share these Guiding Principles as their foundation:

- Children First
- Equity and Accessibility
- Community-based
- Strengthening and Supporting Families
- Flexibility

Our program helps with enhancing traditional parenting skills, increasing confidence, building community and relationships. This results in a healthier population and greater involvement by the communities. It focuses on prevention and health promotion, and supports a wide range of programs and services. This is based on a more family-centred strengths-based model.

Normal program activities include: car seat safety classes, drum and rattle making, water safety, medicine picking, recreational activities, food skills, and animal farm visits. All sessions include a nutritious lunch and light snacks. KFS Families also partners with several community agencies and professionals to enhance the program.

KFS Families has had to switch gears with the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. Group activities have been cancelled or modified to an on-line format, and support has moved towards ensuring families have meals and other necessities as they find themselves increasingly isolated in their homes.

Funding for this program is provided by the Public Health Agency of Canada.

Canada



Family Support

The Family Support program at KFS is part of the Child Development and Family Services team. Referrals to the program are received from the B.C. Ministry of Children and Family Development (MCFD), self-referrals, and referrals through other KFS programs.

Our program supports Urban Indigenous families who are involved with MCFD and have, or may be at risk of having their children removed from their care. Family Support Workers attend MCFD intake meetings, Family Court, family group conferences, and legal mediations. They also provide emotional support, transportation, in-house referrals, and client follow-up.

Clients are supported and helped to understand and follow through with court conditions and MCFD requirements in order for family reunification to take place. The program supports Urban Indigenous parents to be successful and gain confidence in their ability to create a healthy family.

The COVID-19 pandemic has deeply impacted our families. We have worked to ensure food security for families through our meal delivery program, and to see that families are able to obtain basic necessities.

Veronica Winsler
Family Support Worker

Davina Huey
Family Support Worker



Funding for this program is provided by the B.C. Ministry of Children and Family Development.



Family Assessment

The Family Assessment Program works with Urban Indigenous families who are involved with the B.C. Ministry of Children and Family Development (MCFD). The Family Assessment Worker can assist with developing and implementing safety plans with MCFD in a holistic, culturally sensitive approach, attend case conferences and MCFD meetings as support and/or advocate, one on one emotional support, in-house referrals and community referrals as needed. The Family Assessment Worker is a part of a multidisciplinary team working to empower and improve Urban Indigenous children, families in a good way.

Sheridan Terbasket
Family Assessment Worker



Funding for this program is provided by the B.C. Ministry of Children and Family Development.



Supervised Access Visitation

KFS provides supervised access visits for Indigenous and non-Indigenous families involved with the B.C. Ministry of Children and Family Development. The purpose of the Supervised Access Visit (SAV) program is to ensure the safety of children, and to encourage the maintenance of family relationships. The program currently has myself as the full time worker, my day is split between facilitating visits and coordinating the program itself. We also currently have one part-time worker who helps with the afterschool aged children. We are hoping to hire an additional part-time workers to accommodate more visits.

The SAV program supports families in a variety of ways:

- Positive parent-child relationships are encouraged, and when needed, workers provide gentle suggestions, model appropriate interactions, or protect children from harm if a family member's behavior is in breach of specific guidelines.
- Whenever appropriate, the program allows families to visit with children in an environment where they feel most comfortable – such as at their home or in the community. For cases where this may not be an option, KFS has two comfortable visiting rooms available that all families are welcome to use. Our family rooms have recently received a make-over, with a number of new toys and activities added for the families to enjoy.

Overall, the goals of the program are to maintain healthy relationships while supporting families to cope with the separation they may be experiencing, and to support children with the process of integrating back to family and/or community.

Amara J. Waldram
Supervised Access Visit Coordinator



Funding for this program is provided by the B.C. Ministry of Children and Family Development.



Turtle Island FESTIVAL

A National Aboriginal Day Event

through the years...





Family Den

The Family Den was a transition house that supported Indigenous families in the family reunification process by providing a safe, caring, semi-supervised, drug and alcohol-free housing program. Residents were required to be drug and alcohol free, participate in Ki-Low-Na Friendship Society programs and services, and work collaboratively and follow-through with their safety plan, supervision order, and other requirements from their B.C. Ministry of Children and Family Development social worker. The goal of the program was to ensure that Indigenous children and families were safe, healthy, have access to culturally-appropriate services and resources, and to have confidence and stability when they transition on their own.

In the last half of 2020, the Family Den was closed down in order to be renovated to temporarily accommodate residents in the new Tupa's Lodge program, which will be launched in 2021-2022. The last families moved out of the Family Den into independent housing in January 2021.



Women's Health Initiatives

We are grateful for the addition of two new initiatives this year: the Birthkeepers Initiative, funded through the BC Association of Aboriginal Friendship Centres *Doulas For Aboriginal Families* program, and the *Provincial Perinatal Substance Use Project* through the B.C. Women's Hospital and Health Centre. The activities funded by these initiatives will be under the umbrella of our Tupa's Lodge program, which will be a residential program for new mothers and infants who are involved with the B.C. Ministry of Children and Family Development.

Under the Birthkeepers Initiative, the first few informational sessions have been held, and doula training will happen in April 2021. The goal of this initiative is to train Indigenous doulas throughout the province to serve Indigenous mothers and families in a culturally sensitive way.

The *Provincial Perinatal Substance Use Project* funding has been used in support of establishing the Tupa's Lodge program at its interim location at the site of the Family Den. Renovations are being completed, and staff hired. One key component of this funding is to bring in a trauma counsellor to work with our people.

These activities are funded by the B.C. Association of Aboriginal Friendship Centres—Doulas for Aboriginal Families funding stream, and the B.C. Women's Hospital and Health Centre.



Support From Our Community



Family Law Advocacy

Our Family Law Advocacy program provides support, advice and full-representation (document preparation) for low-income clients who have family law matters either in Provincial or Supreme Court. The Advocate cannot represent clients in court, so all clients who access the program are self-represented litigants. Family law matters include: divorce, division of assets, child and spousal support, parenting time (custody), and protection orders. For clients whose needs are beyond the scope of the program, referrals are provided, as appropriate, to: Legal Aid, Access Pro-Bono, Family Duty Counsel, and the Family Law Line.

The Advocate has been able to assist clients in speaking to the court, with the judge's permission, assist clients with wills and estates, and has continued to develop strong working relationships with most Duty Counsel lawyers at the courthouse, court registry, and Legal Aid.

The COVID-19 pandemic has had an effect on our program. In-person appointments are conducted with safety protocols in place, on-line, or via telephone. Most hearings are now conducted via telephone or video conference.

The Family Law Advocacy program continues to have Sydney Hamilton as a part-time Law Assistant.

Debra Apperley
Family Law Advocate



Funding for this program is provided by the Law Foundation of British Columbia.



knxit i? snqsilx^w | Help the Relatives Legal Clinic

In April 2020, Charlotte Oxford joined KFS as our first Clinic Lawyer in our new Poverty Law Clinic, to serve clients throughout the Central Okanagan with Poverty Law services. We have also brought on Hewitt Kingston as a Clinic Assistant, and together they work tirelessly to grow this new program.

This program serves clients whose cases are more complex than the scope of work of a Poverty Law Advocate, and which require the services of a lawyer. It also advocates for systemic change to make access to the justice system and legal services more equitable for all. Most referrals come through the Poverty Law Advocate and the Family Law Advocate.

Funding for this program is provided by the Law Foundation of British Columbia.



Poverty Law Advocacy

Our Poverty Law Advocacy program offers a wide range of Poverty Law services such as: Aboriginal Status applications, Persons With Disability designation and appeals, CPP Disability applications and appeals, Income Assistance applications and appeals, Residential Tenancy issues, B.C. Human Rights complaints, Employment standards complaints, as well as referrals, case management, and other legal service information. The program cannot service criminal cases, and those are referred to the Native Court Worker or Criminal Duty Counsel. Family Law issues are referred to the KFS Family Law Advocacy program. Our program also provides limited assistance with civil (small claims) matters. The program works closely with a supervising lawyer, and the *Help the Relatives* Legal Clinic at KFS.

Normally, the Advocate attends legal information workshops and conferences in order to have the most up-to-date skills and knowledge to most effectively help clients. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, these have moved to an on-line format. The Advocate also continues to network closely with other community agencies in an effort to ensure that we are continuously able to offer the best information and services to our clients, and to ensure community awareness of the program. The program continues to experience many successes with appeals and arbitration hearings.

The COVID-19 pandemic has presented some challenges to program delivery. In-person appointments have been moved on-line or on the telephone as much as possible, and safety protocols are in-place for clients who visit in-person. Most hearings are now on-line or conducted via teleconference.

The program continues to have Sydney Hamilton as a part-time Law Assistant.

Yolonda Beaudry
Poverty Law Advocate



Funding for this program is provided by the Law Foundation of British Columbia.



KFS Strategic Development

In 2019-2020, KFS acquired funding for capacity building through Women and Gender Equity Canada (WAGE). The funding from WAGE runs through the end of the 2022-2023 fiscal year. The overarching goal of this initiative is to develop and strengthen the financial capacity of KFS by securing more donations, increasing financial reserves, establishing a sustainable revenue plan, increasing & strengthening community partnerships, and seeking out additional general capacity funding.

At the beginning of the 2020-2021 fiscal year, Kody Woodmass took on this initiative. He has been focusing on working collaboratively with multi-sectoral stakeholders to carry out an integrated support system to leverage knowledge, expertise, reach, and resources, and to benefit from combined and varied strengths as all work together to support Urban Indigenous peoples. Kody works with the Community Advisory Board for Homelessness, the Community Foundation of the South Okanagan Similkameen, the City of Kelowna, and local media outlets. He is also in charge of writing grants and seeking out alternative funding strategies in order to diversify revenue streams.

Kody Woodmass
Strategic Planning Coordinator



Funding for this initiative is provided by Women and Gender Equality Canada.



For Our Health

For Our Health is a diabetes and obesity prevention and management education program for Indigenous people. This four year-long, community driven, local health research project is being conducted with the University of British Columbia Okanagan and the goal is to bring together Traditional and Western knowledge to improve diabetes and obesity wellness in Indigenous communities. Participants in the program will help develop community services and programs for Traditional and Western approaches to health, diabetes, and being overweight.

The program normally consists of one session per week for six weeks. At each session there is a traditional knowledge keeper or elder that speaks on topics such as traditional foods, medicines, trauma and healing, as well as other areas. Additionally, each session there is a healthcare provider that speaks on aspects of western medicine, diabetes and obesity, healthy eating, and other topics. There is also a short activity included in each session which varies each week ranging from exercising, stretching, smudging or drumming or other activities.

The first program was in the spring of 2019 (15 participants) and the second program occurred in the fall of 2019 (9 participants). The third program started in the March 2020 (13 participants) but was cut short and postponed due to COVID-19. There are more programs to come in the future, although the start date for the next program is currently undetermined. Those interested in signing up for the next program will need to come to contact the Friendship Centre. The program is open for anyone who self-identifies as Indigenous and all ages can participate.

This program is a partnership between the Ki-Low-Na Friendship Society and the University of British Columbia Okanagan.



Language Instruction for Newcomers to Canada

The LINC program (Language Instruction for Newcomers to Canada) is funded by Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) and is free of charge to students. LINC provides basic and intermediate language training for adult newcomers to Canada. Through additional funding from the B.C. Provincial Government, we are also able to offer our LINC classes to naturalized Canadians, refugees, Provincial Nominees, and temporary foreign workers.

We operate five classes at eight levels to help immigrants settle in Canada. LINC classes help students speak and understand English for day-to-day life (housing, banking, work, etc.), get job skills, learn about Canadian life and Indigenous culture, laws, health care and society, obtain the language requirement for citizenship, and make new friends. As part of our program, we volunteer, go on field trips, and bring in guest speakers. All of these are designed to engage students in real world language learning.

LINC served 138 students from over 40 different countries.

The Ki-Low-Na Friendship Society is unique in Canada as the only Indigenous organization providing immigrant services.

This year was unique for us as we had to suddenly switch to on-line classes in April 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. We successfully made that transition and held on-line classes until the end of June 2020. September saw students returning to a different learning environment, combining in-person classes with on-line learning.

This year, we had 138 students attend our classes. We have very multicultural classes, with students coming from over 40 different countries.

I would like to thank our LINC team for another successful year: Emily Hardy, Kathy McMurray, Carrie Skinner, and Natalya Filippova.

Alana Turigan
LINC Coordinator



Funding for this program is provided by Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada, and the B.C. Ministry of Jobs, Trade and Technology.



Our new Canadians, through the years...



Addictions Counselling

Prevention and treatment programs at the KFS are developed around the traditional and holistic teachings of the Medicine Wheel. The goal of our services is to assist individuals to recover to a positive physical, emotional, mental, and spiritual state of health and well-being.

Through addictions counselling in a culturally-appropriate framework, each client receives the respect they need to grow and develop a healthy sense of pride and personal responsibility. Culture is a vital part of individual and collective empowerment. It highlights the interdependence of personal values, beliefs, attitudes, and behaviour. Cultural knowledge strengthens treatment and prevention. Through our addictions counselling services, we provide assessment, counselling, prevention, educational material and workshops, and referrals to appropriate support programs for people dealing with addictions.

Here are some of the activities completed this year:

- One-on-one counselling services.
- Referrals to treatment services.
- Provision of after-care support to individuals who have completed their treatment.
- Attendance at case-management meetings with B.C. Ministry of Children and Family Development and in-house KFS staff regarding how to best help mutual clients deal with family and other issues.
- Attending weekly Partners In Community Collaboration meetings.
- Facilitating weekly Wellbriety group and Mens' Circle.
- National Aboriginal Addictions Awareness Week in November 2018.
- Participation with clients in sweat lodge and other ceremonies as appropriate.

Activities are adapting to the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, with group activities such as Wellbriety and the Mens' Circle being cancelled for the time being.

Randy Jim
Addictions Counsellor



Funding for this program is provided by Interior Health.



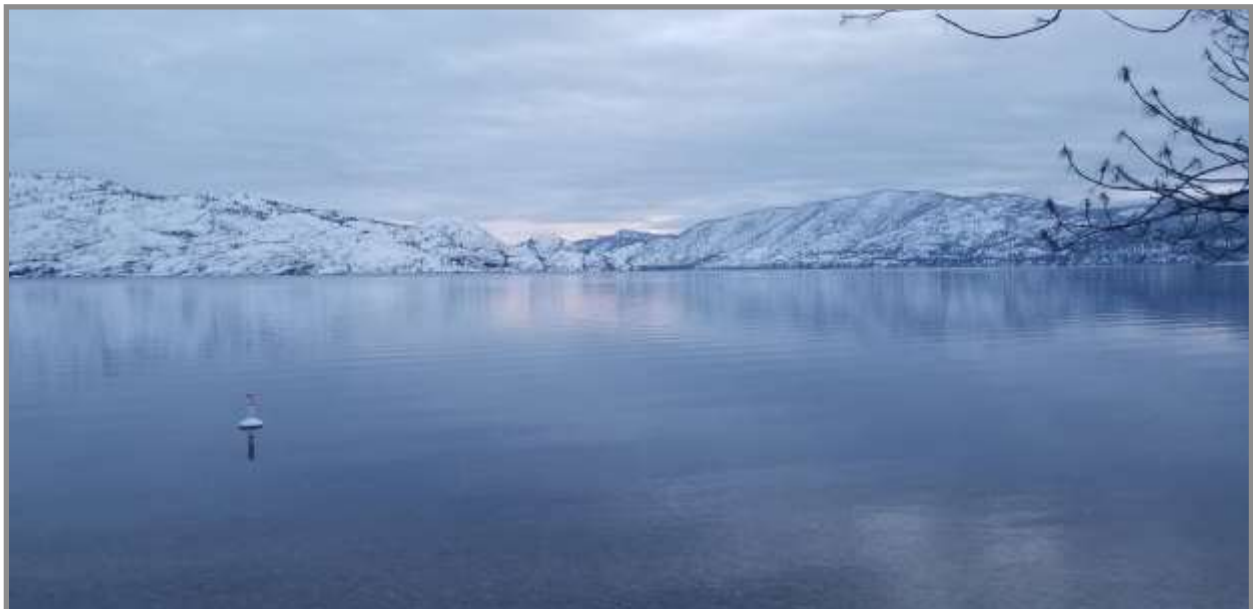
Mental Health Services

Our Mental Health Services program facilitates healing opportunities for a vast number of clients each year, including: status and non-status Indigenous, Métis, Inuit, and non-Indigenous peoples of all ages. Participants engage in positive mental health practices through education, recreation, culture, and counselling. Components of the program include: advocacy, referrals, one-on-one sessions, and groups. Utilizing the concepts of the Medicine Wheel, the program strives to bring balance to those struggling with thoughts and adverse experiences by exploring personal and community strategies aimed at improving wellness at physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual levels.

This year, change and adaptation has been the theme for our program. Program offerings and services had to pivot to meet the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic. In-person group activities were cancelled, and in-person appointments were initially curtailed. Group activities such as the Womens' Circle moved on-line to Zoom, and as warmer weather came, some activities were held outdoors where social distancing could be maintained. In-person appointments moved on-line, on the telephone, or outdoors.

Melissa July ably adapted the program to meet these challenges. Shortly before the end of this year, she left this position to pursue further education full-time.

Funding for this program is provided by Interior Health.



Elder Activities

Adapting to the challenges imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic has been the focus of our Elder Activities program this year. Restrictions imposed by the pandemic have meant the suspension of in-person group activities such as Elders' Luncheons and outings, as well as evening activities like Karaoke Night. The annual Elders' Gatherings have also been cancelled.

The pandemic has been particularly hard on our vulnerable Elders. Early on, isolation was (and it continues to be) a serious issue. Many were isolated in their homes, unable to even go out to shop for necessities due to the fact that COVID-19 poses a particular threat to Elders. Acquiring basic necessities was a challenge also due to lack of availability in stores. KFS was able to support our Elders through our ability to bulk-buy items such as cleaning supplies, paper goods, and other household items. All of our Elders were included on our meals delivery program, and they also receive extra supplies along with their meals. Our Elder Activities Coordinator keeps in touch with the Elders regularly to ensure their needs are met and to reduce social isolation as much as possible.

Funding for this program is provided by the B.C. Association of Aboriginal Friendship Centres—Provincial Capacity Funding.



Our Elders, through the years...



Indigenous Wellness Coordinator

The Indigenous Wellness Coordinator supports and advocates for all Indigenous patients/clients, caregivers, and their families with the delivery of health care services. As a part of the interdisciplinary care network, the Indigenous Health Coordinator is a resource for both health care providers and Indigenous patients to make sure care is respectful, safe, and culturally effective. This position includes working with Primary Care Networks such as doctors, nurses, nurse practitioners, allied health professionals, and Indigenous health coordinators. This type of networking and wrap-around teamwork benefits the patient in that we work together to provide the best healthcare services.

My job is to ensure that our Urban Indigenous population will no longer fall through the health care system cracks. Based on the Medicine Wheel (mental, emotional, physical, and spiritual), I assist in helping patients navigate through the many systems of care in order to have the four aspects of our nature met. I also include financial, as many of our people live in poverty. I guide, advocate, and support individuals and families in order to have their basic needs met, like a home to live in and food in their fridge.

Our program has been able to partner with Interior Health for access to the MediTech system to allow access, as necessary, to patients' information. This allows for insight into patient needs from an acute perspective. It also allows for easier assessment of patients' needs—both short and long-term.

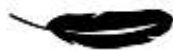
The COVID-19 pandemic has posed significant challenges, the largest being access to clients while they are in the hospital. I work to facilitate access to clients for staff and other workers, and work closely with the hospital's Aboriginal Patient Navigators and hospital social workers.

There is much more work to be done in advocating for our Indigenous patients' needs, such as being treated with dignity and respect, ongoing cultural sensitivity, and simply being heard. I look forward to working with managers at the Kelowna General Hospital to highlight gaps in service for our people, and for our KFS staff to be heard.

Maureen Phillips
Indigenous Wellness Coordinator



Funding for this program is provided by Interior Health.



Outreach Services

Our Outreach Services support both individuals and families in maintaining and obtaining housing. Once again, the program was able to offer housing retention kits to help people get settled in to their new homes. We were also able to assist clients with utility relief support, as well as rent supplements—both of which help them maintain housing. We also provide a hot breakfast at our Saturday Outreach Breakfast with the help of dedicated volunteers. This year, our Saturday Outreach Breakfast has served approximately 600 people. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Saturday Outreach Breakfast has had to move to a “to go” format.

Number of individuals who participated in social and community integration services: 465

Number of housing placements 2020-2021: 72

Our program is supported by three contracts: Aboriginal Homeless Outreach Program (AHOP), Homelessness Prevention Program (HPP), and the Homelessness Prevention Strategy (HPS) program.

AHOP and HPP focus their services on the prevention of homelessness. AHOP connects Indigenous people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness with housing and supports. We assess clients' needs, assist with personal goals, and connect individuals and families with stable accommodation and culturally appropriate services. The program is guided by the following principles:

- a) Program services are accessible and client-focused.
- b) Operations are transparent and accountable.
- c) The service environment is safe, secure, and welcoming.
- d) The sector is collaborative, to improve service effectiveness.

The HPP program is an enhancement to the AHOP program, and focuses on the prevention of homelessness by targeting services to individuals and families who are homeless or at risk of homelessness due to crisis or transition. Individuals who are absolute homeless, hidden homeless, or at risk of homelessness and are within one of the following target groups are eligible to be HPP clients:

- a) People leaving the corrections and/or hospital systems.
- b) Women who have experienced violence or are at risk of violence.
- c) Youth, including those leaving the care system.
- d) People of Indigenous ancestry.

The HPS program provides assistance to individuals and families to find immediate shelter or long-term housing. Clients are referred to appropriate housing in the community, including NOW Canada, Gospel Mission, Willowbridge, Cardington, New Gate, Health House, Hearthstone, West Kelowna Shelter Society, and other appropriate housing and shelter facilities. Also, the program provides a broad range of services that include referrals to alcohol and drug counselling and treatment, transportation to medical appointments, help to apply for Income Assistance, life skills, and other appropriate counselling and ongoing case management in partnership/collaboration with other community service providers and KFS programs.



This past year has been one of transition for KFS’s Outreach Services. In the past, our focus was on both basic needs support and case management services, combined into one role. From training opportunities, department management realized that this combination of roles was causing deficiencies in service provision. As such, towards the end of this fiscal year, we have diversified our outreach team into tow streams: Indigenous Outreach Support Workers, and Indigenous Case Management Workers. This has allowed our department to manage time and resources more efficiently while being able to provide better service to our clientele.

Support workers focus on providing basic needs support such as clothing, hygiene products, food support, and transportation to appointments. The Support Lead acts as a mediator between the support and case management workers, and organizes and coordinates all appointments based on worker availability. This has increased the number of appointments available to clients, while freeing-up time for case managers.

Case management workers focus on supporting clients to achieve short and long-term goals by working with them on a client-focused case plan. Case planning includes helping clients find and maintain housing, achieve financial stability, learn soft skills, find and retain employment, and attain appropriate support services through KFS’s “wrap around” approach to service provision. The Medicine Wheel is a guide to our support, with a focus on the mental, physical, emotional, and spiritual aspects. A graduation process has also been introduced, to empower clients towards self-sufficiency. The graduation process is based on three key pillars: sustainable housing, financial stability, and self-sufficiency.

The department has also been able to acquire an internal database system that will improve time management, employee productivity, impact measurement tracking, internal communications, and allow the department to transition from paper files to an on-line system that is secure, confidential, and all data is backed-up as it is entered.

We are also grateful for community support such as Virgin Radio Kelowna’s Cold Weather Clothing Drive, and donations of clothing and cold weather necessities from many other community groups and individuals in support of the needs of our most vulnerable people.

The Outreach Team

Funding for this program is provided by: Aboriginal Housing Management Association, Service Canada (through the Central Okanagan Foundation), and BC Housing.



Employment Services

KFS Employment Services meets and serves hundreds of people each year from all nations across Canada. Our mandate is to encourage self-sufficiency for Indigenous individuals by addressing local and regional labour market and community needs and priorities through the delivery of employment and training program services. As such, KFS Employment Services is dedicated to Kelowna's Urban Indigenous population.

COVID-19 hit our program with a new set of clients. Although the clientele numbers dropped significantly, the workload increased dramatically due to a trending increase in "career changer" clients. The pandemic has caused people to re-think their priorities and what they value the most. This type of client requires a lot of employment counselling to ensure that they are entering into a suitable new journey. Another trend was the major labour shortage in Kelowna. Never has there been so many "hiring now" signs and emails from job recruiters. There was a noticeable decrease in clients coming in for job preparation and job search assistance. There has also been an increase in youth applying for training funds, certifications, and post-secondary requests.

2020-2021 Graduates:

- Kristy Schoenknecht, Saddle Lake Cree Nation (Care Aide Assistant—Okanagan College).
- Kristi Lynn Turant, Witsset First Nation (Level 4 Plumber—Okanagan College).
- Jamie Couch, Spltasin First Nation (Medical Office Assistant—Okanagan College).
- Michele Davidson, Métis (ACE-IT Entrepreneurs Program).

New Students 2020-2021:

- Rose Omani, Wahponton Dakota Nation (Criminal & Social Justice Dipoloma—Justice Institute).
- Candice Smith, Oregon Jack Creek First Nations (Health Care Aide—Okanagan College).
- Shanny Mclvor, Coldwater First Nation (Occupational Health & Safety Certificate—Okanagan College).
- Shannon Mackay, Little Shushap Band (Cultural Journalism Diploma—Okanagan College).
- Danielle Laforune, Odanak Fists Nation (Crisis & Response & Mental Health Cert.—Discovery College).

Barbara Jagodics
Employment Coordinator

Caroline Bechtel
Employment Assistant



Funding for this program is provided by the Okanagan Training and Development Council.



Disability Tax Aid

Our Disability Tax Aid program has been in operation since July 2018. Our clients face many challenges, and most are in high need of the benefits that are available to them from filing their income taxes.

The primary service we provide through this program is to help individuals with a disability, people with multiple barriers, and Indigenous individuals, with their income taxes and bring them up-to-date on it. We also provide assistance in completing applications such as Persons With Disabilities designation, Canada Pension Plan, and Disability Tax Credit.

Number of clients served: 590

Number of tax returns completed: 1,381

Average number of tax returns filed per client: 2

Average tax refund per client: \$2,010.00

Total benefits and refunds to clients: \$1,186,262.00

Over the past year, through the COVID-19 pandemic, we have been able to ensure continuing service on an on-line basis, while complying with unprecedented health measures. Through the virtual tax clinic, the service is being provided using alternative communication methods such as telephone, video conference, and drop-off. A number of clients also received assistance to apply for the BC Recovery Benefit. Limited in-person appointments are conducted with safety protocols in place.

Niusha Artinmehr
Disability Tax Aid Worker



Funding for this program is provided by Disability Alliance BC.



Our Staff



2021 Annual General Meeting Agenda

October 20, 2021

5:00 pm

Ki-Low-Na Friendship Society—Okanagan Room
442 Leon Avenue, Kelowna, BC

1. Call to Order

a) Opening prayer.

2. Adoption of Agenda

a) Adoption of agenda.

3. Minutes of 2020 Annual General Meeting

a) Adopt minutes of 2020 Annual General Meeting: September 23, 2020.

4. Minutes of 2020 Extraordinary General Meeting

a) Adopt minutes of 2020 Extraordinary General Meeting: October 21, 2020.

5. Reports

- a) President's Report
- b) Executive Director's Report

6. Financial Statements

a) Review and adopt 2020-2021 Audited Financial Statements.

7. New Business

8. Nomination of Directors

Three Directors have completed their terms, and their positions are up for re-election. One additional position is up for election mid-term, with the term ending in 2022—election to this position is to finish the term, and can be re-elected to a full two-year term in 2022.

9. Election of Directors

10. Adjournment

a) a) Closing prayer



2020 Annual General Meeting Minutes

Okanagan Room
September 23, 2020

Meeting Called to Order at 5:10 pm.

Opening Prayer: Karen Vircavs

It was noted that 8 members were present and quorum was met (5:30 pm).

1. Adoption of the 2020 Annual General Meeting Agenda

Motion #1:

To accept the 2020 Annual General Meeting Agenda as presented—no changes or amendments were requested.

Moved by: R. Robin Dods; seconded by: Ann Bell; all in favour, motion carried.

2. Adoption of the 2019 Annual General Meeting Minutes

To accept the 2019 Annual General Meeting Minutes as presented.

Motion #2:

To approve the 2019 Annual General Meeting minutes as presented.

Moved by: R. Robin Dods; seconded by: Ann Bell; all in favour, motion carried.

3. President's Report & Executive Director's Report

Jeremy Bowers read the President's Report; Edna Terbasket summarized the Executive Director's Report.

Motion #3:

To accept the President's Report and Executive Director's Report as presented.

Moved by: Karen Vircavs; seconded by: Jim Ketch; all in favour, motion carried.

4. Financial Statements

The audited financial statements were not available for review at this Annual General Meeting. They will be available for review and consideration at an Extraordinary General Meeting to be held on October 21, 2020.

Motion #4:

To table consideration of financial statements to future Extraordinary General Meeting.

Moved by: R. Robin Dods; seconded by: Ann Bell; all in favour, motion carried.



5. New Business

There was no new business.

6. Nominations and Elections for Board of Directors Positions

There were three Board positions for election, as Francis Lampreau, R. Robin Dods, and Jean-Anne Copley had completed their terms, all were eligible for re-election. Francis Lampreau indicated a willingness to be nominated for a second term, although he was unable to be present at the Annual General Meeting.

Call for Nominations & Election:

Francis Lampreau: nominated by Ann Bell, seconded by Jim Ketch.

R. Robin Dods: nominated by Jean-Anne Copley, seconded by Genna Moyer.

Jean-Anne Copley: nominated by Ann Bell, seconded by Karen Vircavs.

Carol Marquardt: nominated by Karen Vircavs, seconded by R. Robin Dods.

Call for nominations was made three times. Nominations were then closed.

Francis Lampreau, R. Robin Dods, and Carol Marquardt accepted their nominations; Jean-Anne Copley declined her nomination.

Francis Lampreau, R. Robin Dods, and Carol Marquardt were elected to the Board by acclamation.

7. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:30 pm.

Closing Prayer: Jean-Anne Copley



2020 Extraordinary General Meeting Minutes

Okanagan Room
October 21, 2020

Meeting Called to Order at 5:15 pm.

Opening Prayer: R. Robin Dods

It was noted that 9 members were present and quorum was met.

1. Adoption of 2020 Extraordinary General Meeting Agenda

Motion #1:

To accept the 2020 Extraordinary General Meeting Agenda as presented—no changes or amendments were requested.

Moved by: Ann Bell; seconded by: R. Robin Dods; all in favour, motion carried.

2. Financial Statements (Grant Thornton)

The 2019-2020 Financial Statements were presented by John Calder and Rob Collins of Grant Thornton, who attended the meeting via Zoom. John Calder reviewed the financial statements.

Motion #2:

To accept the 2019-2020 Financial Statements as presented.

Moved by: R. Robin Dods; seconded by: Bev Allen; all in favour, motion carried.

3. Confirm 2020-2021 Auditor

To re-appoint Grant Thornton as the auditor for the 2020-2021 fiscal year.

Motion #3:

To re-appoint Grant Thornton as the auditor for the 2020-2021 fiscal year.

Moved by: R. Robin Dods; seconded by: Francis Lampreau; all in favour, motion carried.

4. Nomination and Election for Board of Directors Position

Karen Vircavs had completed her term on the Board of Directors.

Call for Nominations & Election:

Karen Vircavs: nominated by Bev Allen, seconded by Genna Moyer.

Call for nominations was made three times. Nominations were then closed.



Karen Vircavs accepted her nomination.

Karen Vircavs was elected to the Board by acclamation.

7. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:35 pm.



Our people...





Ki-Low-Na Friendship Society

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