



THE  
SIMON FRASER SOCIETY  
FOR COMMUNITY LIVING

## 2014 ANNUAL REPORT



We're a Part of Your Community

### MESSAGE FROM OUR BOARD PRESIDENT

I have had the pleasure of serving on the Board of Directors for a number of years and am now completing my third and final term as President.

In this time, I have come to know many of the volunteers and staff of the Simon Fraser Society for Community Living very well. I have always greatly appreciated their high level of dedication. This past year, we celebrated the work of the Monitoring Committee and its volunteers who have now retired, some after decades of work with the organization. We simply could not do what we do without our wonderful team.

Following many months of thoughtful and sometimes difficult conversation, the Board also confirmed new Vision and Mission statements. It was not an easy task as we sifted through feedback from a number of different groups and tried to capture the essence of the various themes. The themes included a focus on relationships, community, citizenship and fulfillment; things that we all want in our lives. In this year's annual report we are profiling two initiatives that reflect these themes: Building Caring Communities and Youth Employment.

We think our new Vision statement is broad and strong and where we want to be in the future. We believe our new Mission statement reflects our desire to ensure that what we do in some way contributes to helping people to achieve their goals. I am proud to be associated with this fine organization, our community and its people.

Ron Jones  
President



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### OUR VISION

EVERYONE'S WELCOME  
EVERYONE BELONGS  
EVERYWHERE

### OUR MISSION

WE PROMOTE  
OPTIONS AND OPPORTUNITIES  
FOR PEOPLE TO HAVE MEANINGFUL  
RELATIONSHIPS AND FULFILLING LIVES



## SERVICE SUMMARIES

### FAMILY AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES

Families, children, youth and care providers involved with our **Family and Children's Services** department are offered a range of services and supports which include information about strategies to support children's development and inclusion, referral to other services, direct staffing, consultation, groups and workshops. Our services are provided in a variety of settings including family homes, preschool and child care settings, schools, recreation centres and other places in the community where people gather.

Services	What People Say...
<b>Infant Development</b> Tri Cities - 230   New Westminster - 116 <b>Total - 346 families</b>	<i>"I love that it is in your own home, with various doctor appointments and therapy appointments already being scheduled for my daughter. It made this easy for both my daughter and I."</i> <i>"I sincerely appreciate the speed at which we were contacted and the thorough assessment of our son."</i>
<b>Supported Child Development</b> Tri Cities - 414   New Westminster - 151 <b>Total - 565 families</b> <b>Aboriginal Supported Child Development</b> Tri Cities - 26   New Westminster - 12 <b>Total - 38 families</b>	<i>"Very thorough and showed genuine concern about my child's well-being and development. All the staff were very approachable/accessible and helped tremendously with any of our questions/concerns. I saw great improvement with my child."</i> <i>"The tips and suggestions are easy to follow. They invited me to workshops to clarify information. They are great!!!"</i>
<b>New Westminster Children's Centre *</b> Total EI families served (birth to 6): 204 (OT/PT/SLP) Total SA families served (school-age): 118 (OT/PT) <b>Total - 322 families</b>	<i>"All staff are incredibly supportive."</i> <i>"Everyone who works there is amazing! You do so much for so many people. Thank you!"</i> * Occupational (OT), Physical (PT) and Speech and Language (SLP) services are provided by SHARE Family & Community Services
<b>Key Worker Services</b> Tri Cities - 60   New Westminster - 20 <b>Total - 80 families</b>	<i>"I love how the professional, informative resources are readily available. I especially love how the key workers will come right to our home for convenience and privacy."</i> <i>"They are knowledgeable, respectful of their families and will work with other professionals using a multi-disciplinary approach."</i>
<b>Family and Individual Support</b> <b>Total - 404 families</b> Tri Cities & New Westminster	<i>"Workshops and individual support is excellent, very relevant and very helpful."</i> <i>"Workshops have consistently been very timely, very well organized and facilitated, and the content learned was crucial to our family."</i>
<b>Transition</b> <b>Total - 199 families</b> Tri Cities & New Westminster	<i>"I can't express enough what a difference this organization has made for my family and the happiness for our daughter. All our transitions so far from preschool to high school have gone very smoothly. Now we are getting ready for adulthood and I would be lost if it wasn't for this program."</i>



### ADULT SERVICES

Through our **Adult Services** department we offer a range of employment, recreation, volunteer and housing supports, promoting independence, skill development, and community contribution and participation.

Services	What People Say...
<b>Daily Living Skills and Support</b> 22 people	<i>"I am learning to be independent."</i> <i>"They support me with financial affairs and cooking. They help me buy my clothes and do my exercises. They're fabulous! I learn something new every day."</i>
<b>Employment Services</b> 31 people	<i>"I currently work for Pharmasave two days a week and I love this job. I am so grateful that the Simon Fraser Society for Community Living has this program and that they are able to help me."</i>
<b>Community Inclusion</b> 97 people	<i>"We go to a church on Wednesdays and pack buns and clothes for the homeless."</i> <i>"We had a class on how to find work and how to be safe."</i>
<b>Social and Recreational Activities</b> 118 people	<i>"I am doing all I want to do with my life."</i> <i>"I like meeting people, getting to know what they think. I like to listen to the music. It's a good social thing to have fun with people and chat with them."</i>
<b>Housing</b> 37 people	<i>"I like it here. It's close to things I like to do."</i> <i>"I have friends and family around me whenever I want them."</i>
<b>Shared Living</b> 22 people	<i>"We do things together but we also have our own space and our own routines. That independence is important."</i> <i>"I really like living here. My Shared Living provider is a great cook. She takes me out to different places and helps me with budgeting."</i>





**Meaningful Relationships and Fulfilling Lives** - It is what we all want and it is the foundation of the Simon Fraser Society for Community Living's new Mission Statement. This past year, we introduced two new initiatives that we believe reflect our intent to promote this and our vision of a world where **Everyone's Welcome, Everyone Belongs, Everywhere**. They are described below.

### BUILDING CARING COMMUNITIES

This past year, the Simon Fraser Society for Community Living was thrilled to participate in the Building Caring Communities initiative and we hired our first Community Connector. We are working alongside other organizations interested in building caring communities including, posAbilities, Burnaby Association for Community Inclusion, Inclusion Powell River Society, Planned Lifetime Advocacy Network and Spectrum Society for Community Living.



Together, our mission is to build more connected neighbourhoods where people are known and have relationships with others. We are trying to do two things: (1) build unpaid networks of support (friends) around people and connect individuals to activities and associations in their neighbourhoods and (2) grow and thicken the ties of connection wherever we go.



We came together based on a grant from the JW McConnell Family Foundation which made it possible to hire Joe Erpenbeck from the ABCD Institute. He is working with our agencies so that we can get better at this work.

#### Why Are We Doing It

The people we support in services are often socially isolated. This can be seen in surveys and quality of life indices, particularly for persons with developmental disabilities. At the same time, there is considerable research that shows that social relationships are critical to our physical, mental and economic wellbeing. Our goal is to facilitate connections that will develop into friendships and meaningful relationships.

We use the Asset-Based Community Development (ABCD) framework that was created by John McKnight and Jody Kretzmann at Northwestern University. This method focuses on the gifts or assets that are inherent in every person and in every neighbourhood.

The social services system often sees people in terms of the things they 'need' and ignores all the great things they have to offer. Our work in building both relationships and community is based on the gifts, passions and skills that everyone brings with them. We work in neighbourhoods in search of places of hospitality and look for ways to support people in sharing their gifts with others.

### YOUTH EMPLOYMENT

With the generous support of the Vancouver Foundation, the Youth Employment Initiative was launched in the summer of 2013.

vancouver  
foundation

Through this initiative, we engaged students, their families and the business community in a collaborative process to bridge the students from school work experience placements into sustainable part-time employment.

A Youth Employment Facilitator (YEF) was hired to assist students with developmental disabilities aged 15-19 to prepare for and obtain paid employment during their school years and after graduation. In partnership with the teachers and staff from Heritage Wood Secondary School in Port Moody, the YEF has been working with ten students ranging from grades 10 to 12. One of the most valuable components was the time the YEF spent with each student to help them to explore their strengths, skills, and interests in order to match them with potential employers.

The students have made great progress in identifying new career paths and post-secondary options, and gaining crucial skills such as independent transit use. One student has obtained competitive paid employment and several others are actively engaged in job search.

Through this initiative, we believe students gain confidence and ultimately work toward economic independence. We are grateful for the continued support of the Vancouver Foundation and we are excited as we plan for years two and three of the project. We also benefit from the dedicated support of our Steering Committee (consisting of Students, Parents, WorkBC, Douglas College, Ministry of Children & Family Development, TriCities Chamber of Commerce and Community Living BC) who will continue to provide monitoring and support for the project as it moves into Phase 2 at Riverside Secondary in Port Coquitlam this coming September. In year three, we will expand the project to include Coquitlam. The Society is looking forward to further developing the initiative and is excited to be able to include more students.

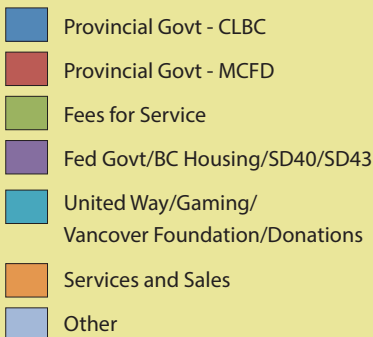
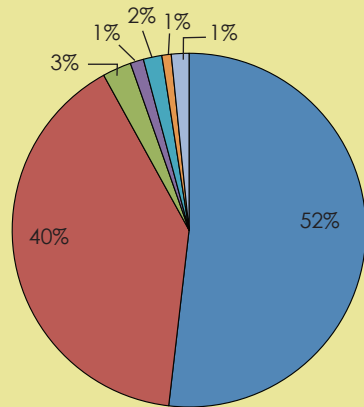


## FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

### Revenues:

**\$11,742,976 (audited)**

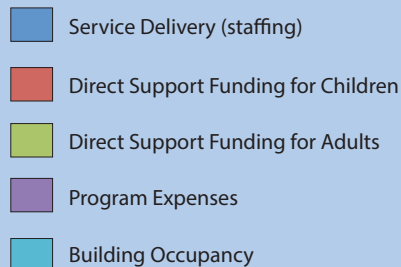
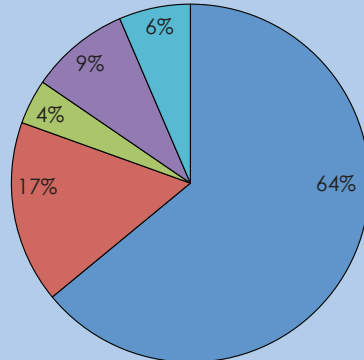
Where our funds come from:



### Expenditures:

**\$11,747,405 (audited)**

Where we spend funds:



## Board of Directors

PRESIDENT:	Ron Jones	
VICE PRESIDENT:	Linda Weinberg	
VICE PRESIDENT:	Ryan Pearce	
TREASURER:	Winston Cummins	
PAST PRESIDENT:	Chris Brown	
DIRECTORS:		
Grace Bergman	Tammy Chesman	Dawn Heisz
Frank Reimer	Shannon Henderseon	

## VOLUNTEERS



Volunteers strengthen our communities. They share their gifts, interests, talents and most importantly, their time. They make a difference to our organization, the people we serve and our communities as a whole.

The SFSCCL is truly fortunate to have many committed and caring volunteers working in different ways to support our many activities. We have had volunteers help us as Board members and work diligently on various committees including Executive, Finance, Monitoring, our Family and Children's Services Advisories and our Youth Employment Steering Committee. They also volunteer at society events and programs, helping with such things as playgroups, child minding, youth groups and dances.

During 2013 – 2014, 55 people offered a total of 1,894 volunteer hours to the SFSCCL. Of note is the contribution made by four individuals who volunteered over 500 hours of their time and talents. Contribution is what volunteering is all about – making a difference and giving to our community. We are incredibly grateful to our generous volunteers who provided a valuable service to our community and to the Simon Fraser Society for Community Living. Thank you!

## Our Funders

- Community Living BC
- Ministry of Children & Family Development
- United Way of the Lower Mainland
- Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General (Gaming)
- School District 40 (New Westminster)
- BC Housing
- Human Resources and Skills Development Canada
- Vancouver Foundation
- School District 43 (Coquitlam)
- Fraser Health

## Head Office

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