

SWOVA ANNUAL REPORT



October 9,
2018

SWOVA Community Development &
Research Society
2018 Annual General Meeting

SWOVA

Annual Report

SWOVA COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & RESEARCH SOCIETY 2018 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

OUR MISSION:

- *TO PROMOTE HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS AND PREVENT DISCRIMINATION, BULLYING, ASSAULT AND ABUSE.*
- *TO DEVELOP AND DELIVER INNOVATIVE, EVIDENCE-BASED SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN, YOUTH AND ADULTS.*
- *TO INSPIRE AND TRAIN OTHERS TO DELIVER OUR PROGRAM MODELS.*
- *TO FOSTER VIOLENCE-FREE COMMUNITIES THROUGH EDUCATION, RESEARCH, AWARENESS-BUILDING AND COLLABORATIVE ACTION.*

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

- SWOVA raised a total of **\$228,736** in funds for our organization's mission. These funds are acquired through government, public and privation foundations, individual and business donors, fundraising events and train the trainer work
- SWOVA has a **newly written 'Healthy Relationships' Curriculum for Students in Grade 6, 7, & 8**. This curriculum was developed in consultation with Tracy Byrne, PhD. And Jenny Weston, PhD of InsideOut Policy Research, based in Victoria, BC and an 8-member advisory committee.
- The SAUDER School of Business at UBC has been engaged with SWOVA on a project to assist us with a marketing strategy and **new name for the organization and our newly redesigned flagship program** (previously Respectful Relationships or R + R). Results are anticipated this November.
- SWOVA has **engaged over 20 volunteers** this past year to assist us on program advisory committees, office administration support, a fundraising committee, and on our Board of Directors.
- SWOVA has **received over \$ 8000 of In Kind Donations, Gifts and Food** from our Local Businesses and Organizations

- SWOVA held our 1st ‘She Shed’ Fundraiser Tour. This event was a hit with our local community and many generous community members shared their beautiful spaces for us to view and be inspired by on this tour.
- A Grant was submitted to the National Crime Prevention Strategy (Public Safety Canada) to assist SWOVA to expand programs further into BC – launch train the trainer models for RR Redesign, PK and PIO Boys and Girls. We will hear back in Spring 2019.

OUR CHALLENGES

- We were not able to meet our 2017/2018 budget as planned, which resulted in a \$23, 408 deficit. This amount had to be paid from SWOVA reserve funds.
- The anticipated deficit resulted in a restructuring to our core staffing model, in order to reduce future costs. As a result, the Programs Director and Administration positions were eliminated. Although very difficult, the restructuring was successful in reducing the total deficit anticipated this past fiscal year and in allowing SWOVA to plan a balanced budget for the 2018/2019 fiscal year.

OUR PROGRAMMING

“I highly recommend this program, because it gave me more self-confidence.”
– Pass It On Girls Grade 8 participant

SWOVA ran 4 projects and programs that contributed to our Mission as an organization.

Respectful Relationships Program:

- The newly written program is based on current research and best practice models in the field and has been completely aligned with the new BC Curriculum. The program integrates topics and themes that support youth to develop self-awareness and interpersonal skills that support healthy, respectful and safe relationships. It will be delivered at SIMS this 2018/2019 school year
- A Phase 2 is being planned for this project to include parent/teacher/student SWOVA website content & high school aged programming
- The Executive Director attended the 2nd annual ‘Building the Field of Teen Healthy Relationships’ Conference hosted by the Canadian Women’s Foundation in Winnipeg, MB.

This program was made possible through the generous support of our funders: Salt Spring Island Community Foundation; the Government of BC; First West/Island Savings; Coast Capital Community Grants; and our other generous supporters.

Pass It On Girls Program:

- Between September 2017 and the end of May 2018, SWOVA's **Pass It On Girls Program** successfully supported **twenty-seven** high school mentors and **twenty** grade 8 buddies. There were 7 additional high school participants from the Gulf Islands School District #64 who were not matched to a Grade 8 student but participated in the weekly meetings. Kate Nash acted as Program Coordinator and was the mentor supervisor and organizer of the girls' program.
- Community support for Sparkfest with local sponsors and volunteers and attendees at this year's event. Tremendous in-kind contributions to Sparkfest from the community and performers.
- Delivery of three workshops at the middle school for all grade 8's.
- A strongly bonded combined PIO girls and boys group, with many expressing how deeply this enriched their experience.
- A youth-led creation of a PIO video to generate awareness, promotion and conversation around the program.

This program was made possible through the generous support of our funders: The Government of BC; Lobstick Foundation; United Way of Greater Victoria; and our many other supporters.

**"I like the opportunity for conversations to questions I may not have been able to ask/start on my own, as well as the diverse answers and opinions shared. I got answers to questions I wasn't aware I had."
-GISS Male Mentor**

Pass It On Boys Program:

- Between September 2017 and the end of May 2018, SWOVA's **Pass It On Boys Program** successfully supported **ten** high school mentors and **ten** grade 7/8 buddies. Ten additional high school participants from Gulf Islands School District #64 were not matched with a Grade 8 buddy but participated in the weekly meetings. David Norget acted as Program Coordinator and was the mentor supervisor and organizer of the program.
- Creation of a safe space for boys and young men to recognize that despite their diversity they share many of the same challenges in their lives.
- Development of critical thinking skills, conflict resolution skills, and communication skills.
- The delivery of both a Pass it On Boys and Girls program building on our belief in equality and empowerment.

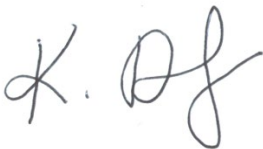
This program was made possible through the generous support of our funders: TELUS; Hamber Foundation; the United Way of Greater Victoria and our other generous supporters

Consent and Sexual Assault in Rural Communities Project

- SWOVA's Consent and Sexual Assault in Rural Communities Project is a 3-year project whose objectives were to increase inter-agency collaboration and capacity to address and respond to sexual assault; as well as to engage and increase youth awareness about consent and sexual assault resources in the Southern Gulf Islands Community.
- This project is coming to a close at the end of September 2018. Project Co-ordinators, Sharyn Carroll and Katie Watters, who were overseen by a Project Advisory Committee have made significant and sustainable contributions to the Southern Gulf Islands Community in supporting the project objectives.
- The Violence Against Women in Relationships (VAWIR) committee on SSI will continue to play a role in ensuring issues around sexual assault and consent continues to be at the forefront.

This Project was made possible through the generous support of the Status of Women Canada.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. Dhingra', written in a cursive style.

Kiran Dhingra, MSW, RSW

Executive Director

SWOVA Community Development & Research Society

Appreciation and Recognition

SWOVA would like to thank give our Huge and Heartfelt Thanks to Our volunteers and supporters for their time, donations, and other In Kind Support:

Advisory Boards

Angela Huser, VIHA; Ava Powelson; Charlie Barteaux, IWAV ; Dianne Cronmiller, IWAV ; Gordon Murphy; Holly MacDonald; Jenny Redpath, Public Health Nurse; Katie Watters, SSI Victim Services; Kim Dalton, Sexual Health Educator; Maggie Squires; Nelson Mensah-Aborampah; Outer GI Victim Services - Shirley Nord, Valerie Smith-Dayton; Rob Pingle, SD 64 Board Trustee; RCMP detachments on Salt Spring and the Penders; SD64 - Linda Underwood, Shari Hambrook, Sue Starkey; Keiko Taylor; Shellyse Szakacs; SSICS -Johanna Stiver, Cheryl Bell-Gadbsy, Trish Nobile Island;

She Shed Tour Organizing Team

Susan Wetmore, Adina Hildebrandt, Laura Hillstrom, Kathy Ramsey, Susan Sheane

Partners

Captin Sowden - Anti-Violence Project at University of Victoria; Galiano Health Care Society; Jenny Weston, InsideOut Policy Research; Morgen Baldwin – EVA BC; Tracy Byrne, InsideOut Policy Research; Mayne Island Health Clinic; Pender Island Health Centre; University of Victoria Pro Bono Students Society; Victoria Sexual Assault Centre

Other Volunteers

Karen Reiss; Michael Wall; Patrick Kennedy; Stephanie Ashton; Susan Sheane

Board of Directors

Sarah Belknap, Janet Chantler, Eric Dempster, Dan Logan, James Cowan

Our Sponsors

Apple Photo; Bohemia Consignment; Café Talia; Barb's Buns; Country Grocer; Galiano South end Hall; Island Tides; Mayne Agricultural Society; Mayne Post; SSI library; Pender Islands Community Hall; Salt Spring Senior's Centre ; Saturna General Store; The Pender Post; Thrifty Foods

****To our funders, we simply couldn't do this work without you. Thank you for getting behind our mission and giving us wings to fly.**

****Lastly, to all of our staff, parents, teachers, community supporters and especially the youth for standing with us in our work and vision toward a violence-free society.**