

# STRATHCONA COMMUNITY CENTRE ASSOCIATION

## 2018 ANNUAL REPORT



**STRATHCONA  
COMMUNITY CENTRE**

*We take care of each other*



**STRATHCONA COMMUNITY CENTRE**  
601 KEEFER STREET, VANCOUVER, B.C. V6A 3V8  
604-713-1838

STRATHCONA COMMUNITY CENTRE IS JOINTLY OPERATED BY  
STRATHCONA COMMUNITY CENTRE ASSOCIATION  
AND VANCOUVER BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION

We are grateful to live and work on the  
unceded, ancestral territories of  
the xʷməθkʷə́yəm (Musqueam),  
sk̓wx̓wú7mesh (Squamish), and  
selílw' itulh (Tsleil-Waututh) nations.





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# BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President:	Holly Alyea
Vice-President:	Janine de la Salle
Treasurer:	Anna Bond
Secretary:	Emma Carscadden
Past President:	Shannon Williams
Directors:	Dawn Hoogeveen
Jack Fraser	Fariborz Ghaem-Maghami
Sarah Butterfield	Christina James
Mark Nishiguchi	Victoria Bull

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## COMMUNITY CENTRE STAFF

Community Recreation Supervisor:	Linda Koehler
Recreation Supervisor:	Liza Tam
Recreation Supervisor:	Jeremy Quan
Community Youth Worker:	Gabe Dennis
Recreation Facility Clerk:	Jenny Lee
Arts, Culture and Engagement:	Brenda Racanelli
Childcare Coordinator:	Veronica Light
Food Security Coordinator:	Huyanne Le
Park Board Manager Recreation Services:	Jessica Land
Park Board Commissioner Liason:	Camil Dumont



# SCCA PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The Strathcona Community Centre Association is a non-profit organization that is run by a committed volunteer Board of Directors who are guided by the needs of the community in offering programs and services at the Community Centre. This year, we are deeply appreciative of the hard work from Board, staff and volunteers, who in the face of many shifts and changes, continue to express their belief in the work we do. Thank you!

In partnership with the Vancouver Park Board, and with the ongoing roll-out of the our new Joint Operating Agreement (JOA), the SCCA is working to establish new policies and procedures to reflect this new relationship. We are doing our best to honour the unique character of place that is Strathcona Community Centre, while engaging and welcoming new programs and services to support our growing and changing neighbourhood.

Key highlights and efforts this year have included launching a new SCCA website, new logo, supporting a program renewal in our childcare service delivery, hiring an Administrative Assistant, welcoming new food security programs and staff, and launching an Artist in Community Initiative. While we say goodbye to key Park Board Centre staff, we welcome the coming year as one filled with great expectation and promise. 2019/2020 will see the SCCA move forward with strategic planning and visioning, governance planning and policy development, as well as continued fundraising and special events to support our community.

**Respectfully Submitted By:**

**Holly Alyea**  
SCCA President

# FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE REPORT



The SCCA is reliant on the generosity of donors and fundraising, which remains a challenge and is a precarious operating model. There is a need for continuity in the stewardship of donors and funders (over \$1 million dollars) with assistance and support from both our Park Board and Association Staff. To support this objective, the fundraising committee had many initiatives in 2018, including the following highlights:

- A longstanding annual federal summer grant of over \$50,000, which had been in question at this time last year was awarded for summer 2018. Thank you to all who petitioned to have this grant continue. Your hard work paid off!
- The SCCA has been focusing efforts developing fundraising policies to guide all the activities of the fundraising committee, the “how-tos.” Policies for donor site visits and donor recognition have been adopted.
- An online donations hub has been re-activated, promoted and received a fair amount of activity in 2018. It can be found via our website or directly at **<https://chimp.net/charities/strathcona-community-centre-association-1972>**
- The SCCA continues to seek secure funding for our Food Security programs as much of our grants and donations do not have or allow the flexibility to pay for staffing needs.

The SCCA is so very grateful to have unwavering support from its donors, private and public funders, partners and volunteers. Thank you to anonymous & individual donors, Canada Place/Port Metro, City of Vancouver, Face the World Foundation, Fresh Direct Produce, Haywood Securities, Concord Pacific, Matchstick Coffee, Royal Bank, CLICK, Rotary Club of Vancouver Sunrise, The Gourmet Warehouse, Vancouver Foundation, Vancouver Parks Board, Vancouver School Board, and Vancouver Sun Children’s Fund, among others. The SCCA is fortunate to have long-time supporters committed to our community and services.

In response to the challenges of our current funding model and a motion passed by Park Board Commissioners Casey Crawford and Catherine Evans, the SCCA Sustainable Funding Strategy working committee was formed last year. The purpose of this committee is to develop a proposal and plan as to how the SCCA can more sustainably fund programming at the Centre. The committee is working to develop a funding framework , and service delivery model, that applies to the Strachcona Community Centre and other inner-city community centres. The committee also works to ensure programs are financially accessible and affordable.

Finally, mark your calendars! The SCCA has upcoming fundraising events that not only serve to raise funds for operating the Centre, but are also fun community building events!

**The Gourmet Warehouse Chocolate Challenge on May 2, 2019**

<https://gourmetwarehouse.ca/chocolate-challenge-2019-thur-may-2/>

**The BC Dragon Boating Youth Regatta on May 11, 2019**

<http://dragonzone.ca/train/race/youthregatta/>

Stay tuned for the annual Pub Night fundraiser in November!

**Respectfully Submitted By:**

**Christina James**

Fundraising Committee Chair




# HUMAN RESOURCES & GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE REPORT



A team like no other. The Committee would like to take a moment to acknowledge the incredible staff and volunteers who make Strathcona Community Centre a unique and special place in our community.

Acknowledgements to past Board members Heinz Franzke and Kevin Kimoto, whom graciously served the Centre and shared their time and knowledge for the benefit of the community.

A special note of thanks to Ron Suzuki, who also stepped down from the Board this year. Ron has had multiple roles with the Centre spanning many years (too many to count!). Ron is still graciously supporting the Centre in many other capacities through volunteering and fundraising, and his enthusiasm and dedication to our community is still going strong. Thank you, Ron!



Lastly, the Committee would like to acknowledge support from the City of Vancouver which helped fund our ongoing efforts to improve HR and employment practices. Our efforts include the development of a staff wage review and management framework that will help standardize guidelines for hiring and staff performance reviews, improved employee guidelines and staff orientation documentation.

## **Respectfully Submitted By:**

**Mark Nishiguchi**

Human Resources & Governance  
Committee Chair



# FACILITIES COMMITTEE REPORT



This past year, we were happy to see the Centre renewed with a fresh coat of paint. Unfortunately, we lost some of our internal murals that had been created in collaboration with the community over the years. We hope that we will be able to support the creation of new artwork by some community artists in the next year to bring some new energy and creativity to the walls.

Subsequent to the completion of our Needs Assessment Study, we completed a Physical Plan for the Centre to explore different opportunities in how to use the space resources that we have on site. We continue to be pressured for space to accommodate our food and childcare programs and will continue to advocate for additional resources to support these programs on site.

We were able to secure early Fitness Centre hours for Strathcona residents for a few months and will continue to advocate for that service from the Park Board in the year ahead. We will continue with some detailed and thoughtful advocacy on our part, to maintain and build upon our positive relationships with our site partners, and to continue to build on the momentum and positive feedback we have received to date.

**Respectfully Submitted By:**

**Holly Alyea**

Facilities Committee Chair



# PROGRAM COMMITTEE REPORT



Our Program Committee this year has encountered numerous obstacles and challenges as we continue to work out the kinks of implementing a new Joint Operating Agreement with the Park Board, in addition to some new supervisory and program staff. With a lot of hard work, we have collectively begun to move in the right direction with the identification for a need in enhanced policies and procedures that are guided by good governance and supported by thorough implementation. We are doing our best to guide the Centre in harnessing the needs of the community by offering programs that speak to our diverse neighbourhood and to a changing world.

Our Youth Program at the Centre has started to thrive and is making real progress in reaching out to the youth and their families in the neighbourhood. We welcome Gabe Dennis as our new Youth Programmer!

Our Food Programs continue to support our Centre's members and beyond, by providing necessary support to families in need, and also in offering educational and training courses. Our Breakfast and Back Pack programs continue to support the families that need them within in our community. We appreciate the ongoing generosity of our donors in making these programs so reliable for our community.

We have been committed to expanding the Arts Programming at the Centre and were delighted to receive the Artists in Community award this year. Earhand Gleaners, our new resident artists, are developing an exciting and innovative year-long program with us for all community members. We have also established the Artists' Share initiative, offering a free, twice-monthly program engaging local artists at a 'sharing table' in the lobby. Local textile artist, Amy Walker, opened this new program initiative to a sold out audience: this evolving, cross-generational program offers a much-needed Arts presence at the Centre and is proving hugely popular.

The Programming Committee has also been working hard to redesign the entrance to our Community Centre making it more welcoming and informative. We now have a cafe-style space where members can meet and talk, new signage on our walls for easier navigation of what's on at the Centre and evolving art on the walls show-casing the initiatives of all the artists and community workers hard at work in our neighbourhood..

**Respectfully Submitted By:**

**Sarah Butterfield & Holly Alyea**  
Program Committee Co-Chairs



# FOOD SECURITY COMMITTEE REPORT



The food security programs at Strathcona Community Centre continue to thrive and build community as well as provide healthy food options for children, youth, adults and families. Food is energy and our food programs continue to help people to participate more-fully in recreation programs and healthy lifestyles.

Key highlights from this year include:

- We said good-bye to Lauren Brown, Food Security Coordinator since 2014 as she moved onto the next chapter of her career. We wish her the best! We are very pleased to welcome the new Coordinator, Huyanne Le, who brings new energy, passion, and experience to our food programs.
- The SCCA, including Board, staff, volunteers, and program users, collaborated in developing a Strathcona Community Centre Association Food Charter, a document that describes our values and principles around healthy food at the centre. The Food Charter will be used to create quality standards for food donations at the centre as well as to communicate externally about our core values. The SCCA Food Charter will be finalized in 2019.
- To increase healthy drink options at the centre, two water bottle filling stations were installed (one upstairs, one downstairs). This has already led to the elimination of thousands of plastic water bottles.
- Breakfast Buddies was contracted to provide meals for Board meetings, in addition to regular program functions. This program creates food skill opportunities for youth, as well as shared meals for families. This has not only provided good nourishment for hard-working volunteers, but allows the SCCA to spend those dollars within the organization.

The SCCA is continually grateful to the many donors and funders who make the food security programs at the Strathcona Community Centre possible. The long-standing support provided by donors and funders has enabled the Centre to best meet the diverse needs of the community. This support has also helped to create a culture of caring and inclusion at the centre and we are proud to be able to continue to serve the community in this way.

**Respectfully Submitted By:**

**Janine de la Salle**

Food Security Committee Chair

# CHILDCARE COMMITTEE REPORT



The Childcare committee meets monthly with the child care coordinator to discuss issues pertaining to the Strathcona Licensed Childcare program. This year we helped out with an Open House in February. We also worked to raise awareness about the potential space crunch, due to the insecurity of lease arrangements with the Vancouver School Board. Historically the childcare program has not been charged rent. We were informed by the Vancouver School Board in the fall that this is changing. As a committee it is our priority to continue to provide affordable childcare, particularly for members of our committee that are most in need. This will continue as we seek clarity over potentially new arrangements with the Vancouver School Board.

The closure of the ASA program has meant that the formerly low/no cost childcare option is no longer available. As we move forward with potentially increased programming costs, the committee is looking to find creative solutions to keep childcare costs affordable. Strathcona Licensed Childcare is the largest program in the city and has a waitlist of over 200.

Many thanks to all the staff who keep the program running and provide exceptional care to local kids.

**Respectfully Submitted By:**

**Dawn Hoogeveen**  
Childcare Committee Chair



# SUSTAINABLE FUNDING STRATEGY REPORT



The Sustainable Funding Strategy Working Group has continued to work closely with the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation and the City of Vancouver on developing a long-term sustainable funding model for Strathcona Community Centre, a legacy of our advocacy efforts during the Joint Operating Agreement consultation process.

After some self-directed learning and research in 2017 and early 2018, the team of four board members, Shannon Williams, Heinz Franzke, Sarah Butterfield, and Emma Carscadden, and Community Recreation Supervisor Linda Koehler, began meeting bi-weekly with the City's Project Team, including Project Manager Kaidra Mitchell and Park Board Manager of Recreation Services Jessica Land to complete a Current State Review and Environmental Scan of Strathcona, and conduct interviews with other jurisdictions on their recreation funding models. These documents and reviews, along with key SCCA reports like the Needs Assessment, were developed to provide a strong basis of information to the team of consultants who will help us develop the funding strategy.

In January of this year, we were excited to welcome the Deetken Group to the project as our consultant team. Deetken will be working closely with the SCCA, the City Project Team, Strathcona users and neighbours, and representatives from Ray-Cam Cooperative Community Centre and Thunderbird Community Centre to help us develop a funding model that is unique and specific to Strathcona but is also adaptable to other inner-city community centres who face similar challenges as we do.

The Sustainable Funding Strategy project is a complicated and critical exercise, but the results have the potential to fundamentally change how we fund our community centre. We do not know yet what the model will look like, but this will begin to be revealed over the coming months. Input from you, our members, users, friends, and neighbours, will be massively important to the project and model's success, so we urge you get involved as community engagement and consultation begins over the coming months.

**Respectfully Submitted By:**

**Emma Carscadden**

Sustainable Funding Strategy  
Working Group Member



# COMMUNITY RECREATION SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

I'm pleased to have been a part of tremendous growth over the last year – in diversifying program offerings, expanding initiatives supporting Indigenous cultural practice and engagement, health and wellness, arts opportunities, support for at risk youth. Outcomes have resulted in broadened inclusion of local residents and increased spaces for participation among neighbours who experience poverty and marginalization.

## **PROGRAM EXPANSION AND ENHANCEMENT – SERVING OUR NEIGHBOURHOOD**

Staff and board continue to work together, seeking out a number of initiatives and programs and identifying/combining resources – some examples are:

- With the Park Board Arts, Culture and Engagement unit, we secured an artist in community – Earth Gleaners and have increased arts opportunities.
- We again hired a R.I.S.E. Leader - Responsible Indigenous Strategy for Empowerment Leadership Program – welcome to Daniel Cook!
- With the Vancouver School Board – Community Schools Team – we continue to offer Moresports – increasing physical skills and play among children while providing youth volunteer and leadership opportunities.
- Piloted early morning opening for the newly upgraded Fitness Centre – with great uptake - results will help us to negotiate the funding to continue this practice.
- Increased offerings for adults in fitness and wellness.
- Two licensed childcare programs are now consolidated, operating as the Strathcona Licensed Childcare with staff support to increase access to Ministry subsidies and serve our most vulnerable families.

- Food Security team - integrating food/food related activities across all centre functions/programs - fostering enhanced love for food, skills in food preparation and increased understanding of healthy eating and nutrition.
- Diversified after school programming for children– Lego, cedar weaving, cooking, etc.
- Jordan's Principle (First Nations Health Authority) grant supported the building of a place-based youth program – resulting in tremendous increase in participation by local young people, especially those who identify as Indigenous, aged 8 to 18 years and beyond. Each day, we see anywhere from 20 to 75 children and youth in this space and in the gym on Friday evenings. Two Youth Engagement and Support Workers enable us to foster continued participation among our most vulnerable.

#### **FACILITY:**

- Facility upgrades – the entire centre was painted; new window blinds across the front of the building; 2 water-filling stations; and a comfy space for our youth to call their own.
- Rental fees - reviewed and increased to ensure revenue that matches neighbourhood facilities and contributes to the CCA's ability to fund opportunities.

#### **EQUITABLE ACCESS TO RECREATION:**

- Strathcona Subsidy Program continues to provide up to 75% and 100% coverage for access to programs; will remain in place until the Long-Term Sustainable Funding Strategy is fully developed.
- Working groups from SCCA, Ray Cam, and Thunderbird CCA's are working in conjunction with staff from Park Board and City of Vancouver and a consulting firm.

#### **PASSING THE TORCH**

Luke Balson will be assuming the Community Recreation Supervisor role, as of the evening of the SCCA AGM! A warm and big welcome to Luke!!

**Respectfully Submitted By:**

**Linda Koehler**

Community Recreation Supervisor

# RECREATION PROGRAMMER (CENTRE) REPORT



It is hard to believe that almost a year has passed since I started my temporary position at Strathcona Community Centre. There have been many highlights during my time here that I want to mention that I believe have been successes for the community centre.

Shortly after my arrival, I was tasked with taking over the Reconciliation in Action event here at Strathcona. In collaboration with local Indigenous organizations, community partners and community centres, we were able to pull off a successful event that highlighted the community we work within.

In the Fall 2018 season, I slowly started to introduce new programming to the community centre; in addition, a Program Assistant III was brought on to assist with special events – this would all be the start of new opportunities and growth in our programming opportunities. The Winter 2019 season was a time for further renewal; a professionally published program guide along with a slew of new activities was brought to the organization. Over 6,000 households in the V6A area received our new program guide, and a pilot project of opening the facility at 7:00 am was introduced.

The future of Strathcona is looking exciting! A new special event, an outdoor movie, will be introduced in August; this will be another opportunity to engage those that we service, while working with partners within our community to provide a high quality recreation experience. It will be a very fun night with vendors, community booths and delicious food and drinks.

I would like to thank my staff team, especially Linda Koehler for the continued support of my time here at Strathcona. In addition, without the support of the staff team, volunteers, and community association, I would not be able to speak to the success we've had in the past year.

**Respectfully Submitted By:**

**Jeremy Quan**  
Recreation Programmer

# FOOD SECURITY COORDINATOR REPORT



## BREAKFAST PROGRAM

The Breakfast Program currently serves roughly 130 healthy breakfasts each school day morning to students and families of Lord Strathcona Elementary School in a friendly and welcoming environment (Approx. 40 breakfast are sent over to the school).

- The City of Vancouver's evaluation of the SCCA's Breakfast Program concluded that it increases children's consumption of healthy food and positive attitudes toward breakfast while reducing caregivers' stress related to accessing healthy food. It also found that Breakfast Buddies' self-confidence, social skills and/or leadership skills improved, in addition to their ability to prepare nutritious food for themselves.
- Vancouver City Council approved another \$80K contribution to the program for 2018 which is topped up by Breakfast Club of Canada funding and other corporate & private funders.
- The Breakfast Buddies program continues to thrive, with many youth from Grades 5-7 and helping out with the breakfast programs Monday to Friday, and catering the monthly Board of Directors meetings.
- The Breakfast Buddy Chat and Chew initiative supports team building and leadership skill development while exposing youth to different aspects of the food industry. Activities to date have included a variety of out trips (ex. Historic Roedde House, Matchsticks Coffee) and in-house activities (ex. guest mentors, goal setting & leadership activities including a canning workshop). This year Chat and Chew will be bringing in Hives for Humanity to a series of workshops starting with Bee Biology.
- Two BCIT Nursing Practicum Students continue to be placed in the Breakfast Program for community experience. Over the past year, these students have been assisting with running the Breakfast Program, engaging with families, and hosting interactive dental health outreach during breakfast



## **BACKPACK PROGRAM**

The Backpack Program currently provides healthy food access to roughly 171 families, including 415 children each Friday during the school year.

- Backpack Leadership Committee (program members and volunteers) has hosted the 3rd annual World Food Day Celebration, hosted activities at the schools' Multicultural Fair, provided input into local food access continued to help run the weekly Backpack "Market" and Welcome Area.
- The 3rd annual World Food Day Celebration included music by local musicians, a photography project (Hands and Eyes), dancing, medicine pouch making, henna, giant Jenga, VANS shoes and grocery bag raffles, a variety of food table, a Red Fox children's play area and the DTES's smoothie booth. We estimate that at least 150 people attended from the Backpack Program and broader community.
- The Welcome Area & Sharing Table continues to ease the Backpack Market line-up on Fridays and facilitates a number of engaging opportunities including seeds sharing, arts and crafts, etc.
- The Backpack Program continues to be funded by a combination of grants, corporate & private funders and fundraisers, including the upcoming 7th annual Gourmet Warehouse Chocolate Challenge

## **COMMUNITY KITCHENS, WORKSHOPS, TRIPS & TRAINING**

- Three community kitchen programs continue to run each year: the weekly Cooking Fun for Families, the monthly Community Kitchen during the school year, and the Summertime Community Kitchen during July and August.
- The Strathcona Canning Club continues to meet every season. Over the past year they have canned strawberry and raspberry jam, salmon, and a minestrone soup.
- Three public food workshops were programmed for each season in 2018, including Grow Your Own Microgreens, Start Your Own Seedlings, Native Edibles, and even Wild Game Cooking.
- Eight farm, garden and farmers' market trips took place in 2018, including Tu'wusht Aboriginal Garden, u-pick berry farms, and various farmers' markets around the city.

## **BEHIND THE SCENES**

- The SCCA Food Security Committee continues to meet every couple of months and has been working to increase funding and food donations as well as to strengthen our connections with other food-related organizations in the neighbourhood.
- We continue to partner with the Vancouver Neighbourhood Food Networks, a hub of food security organizations from across the city. Activities include providing input into revised Vancouver Food Policy Priority Actions, continuing to support the VCH Food Asset Map project, and participated in the Wild Salmon Caravan Parade.
- Central food ordering continues into its 6th year, supporting childcare snacks, day camps, youth programs, community kitchens, Breakfast & Backpack Programs.
- The Upstairs Kitchen and Community room has centralized food equipment, essentially an equipment library where all food programs have access to a well-stocked food tools and equipment.

**Respectfully Submitted By:**

**Huyanne Le**

Food Security Coordinator



# RECREATION PROGRAMMER (FAMILY & SENIORS) REPORT



With this report, I am going to focus more on sharing some initiatives of the new addition to my programming areas: Arts @ Strathcona besides Seniors and Family. These initiatives represent a way to remove administrative barriers and have members of the community come and share their different backgrounds and meet with others as the first step in establishing a supportive community and a sense of belonging to all.

With the joint efforts, partnership and sharing of resources, the SCCA, Park Board and community artists are rolling out these exciting new opportunities:

- **#TreasuringStrathcona** led by EarthHand Gleaners Society is the 2019 Artists in Community project. This residency is planned to engage youth and highlight Strathcona's strengths as the amazing, vibrant, and full-of-possibilities community it is. Check out the blog: [www.earthand.com/projects/2019-aic-strathcona/](http://www.earthand.com/projects/2019-aic-strathcona/) for the latest program activities.
- **Welcome Lobby** - creating a welcome space in the 'center' of the community as skill sharers. As a kick start, we had a 3-day Lunar New Year Arts Celebration with Amy Walker leading felting, stitching and knitting to connect participant of all ages to make mini pigs. The entire afternoon was filled with beautiful music and songs from Jay Peachy and Friends. The Welcome Lobby is created for residents to share their talents and interact with the general public.
- **Artists' Share** – local artists sharing their knowledge, skills, and experience with the Strathcona community. Workshops occur once a month and are free. We welcome more local artists to use the space as mentors and skill sharers in the future.
- **Inner City Spirit Space is another pilot.** Creating an inviting space, the program reaches out to indigenous members of the community to work together and foster individual and community well-being. Participants are encouraged to share skills and knowledge, practice traditional arts and crafts, and express themselves through various forms of storytelling. Thanks for the support from Victoria Bull, a board member and Daniel Cook the RISE leader for making this pilot so successful.

- **Arts & Health** - from Puppetry to Moving Stories - The Strathcona puppetry project came to an end after 12 years. One of the original members, Ms. Tse who is now 92 years old and her peers expressed their feeling and experience of puppeteering. An artist composed a song with their expressions. Furthermore, to document the path, Catrina Longmuir was contracted for a mini story-telling project to help close the puppet theatre group and create a legacy piece for the project to capture the experience digitally. Watch out for a display at the Strathcona Lobby soon. The successes of the puppet group inspired a group of indigenous seniors in Adelaide, Australia to develop and devise, collectively, a short theatre piece “Shared Heart” exploring the common experiences they share as elders. This presentation will be performed in Vancouver in 2020!
- **“Moving Stories”** is the new art program for the older adults and Elders. Artist/Facilitator Veronica Berezowsky with her professional background as a Dance Therapist and Community Dance professional, gather participants together to move, share stories, connect, and have fun on Wednesday afternoons. A showcase and exhibition is scheduled for June 1 at the Roundhouse Community Centre.

Apart from the arts portfolio I have taken on, I continue to connect with a number of community partners and other service providers – such as the Community Policing Centre, VSB, BC Housing, Neighbourhood Houses, to share resources, collaborate and promote programming to the seniors and families of Strathcona.

**Respectfully Submitted By:**

**Liza Tam**

Recreation Programmer



# COMMUNITY YOUTH WORKER REPORT

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The 2018/2019 year was one of positive transition for the youth program at Strathcona Community Centre. The best part of practice in our field is that we commit to consistent review, revise based on evidence and metrics, and adapt to change – ensuring equitable access to recreation. For this process we had to ask many key questions such as who are we serving and who are we inadvertently leaving out? What we found was that we had to make some structural changes in how we welcome the Indigenous youth that did not feel engaged. This reconciliation approach to service delivery is in line with the 94 calls to action of the Truth & Reconciliation Commission.

A key grant from the First Nations Health Authority gave us the freedom to create a youth space and to hire support and engagement staff who work tirelessly to include and to build up the local youth presence in our centre. We opened the new Youth Lounge on October 1st, 2018 and have complimented it with revitalized programs and low-barrier spaces.





These spaces are staffed by dedicated individuals that value access and inclusion of all youth; especially those who are often marginalized and vulnerable, with a strong focus on those that identify as Indigenous. This place-based strategy has been the vehicle for carrying out our vision of recreation for all.

The new youth program engages and supports youth in their own community, builds capacity, and meets youth where they are at. Our constant determination is to increase access, inclusion, transparency, healthy youth development, and to activate and utilize local resources as opposed to looking outside the community for assistance. The result has been a re-energized youth program at Strathcona that is supportive, youth-driven, and dynamic.

**Respectfully Submitted By:**

**Gabe Dennis**

Community Youth Worker



# CHILDCARE COORDINATOR REPORT



## **STRATHCONA LICENSED CHILDCARE**

During the reporting period April 2018 to March 2019 we completed the transition from two programs (ASA and OSC) to one program Strathcona Licensed Childcare (SLC). This included a very successful transitioning of the kids and staff into feeling we have one program working together. We are operating at 174 spaces in 9 rooms.

Included in the total numbers, we currently are operating 60 children in the 3rd floor of the “E” building with a no cost use agreement with the VSB through the end of June 2019 only. For the coming 2019/2020 school year the Strathcona Community Centre Association board will be charged rent for the 3rd floor in order to operate those spaces. This is a departure from the past as the VSB has never asked for rent beyond the Community Centre space. In addition, there is a proposed plan by the VSB to move 8 classrooms of Early French Immersion to Lord Strathcona from Henry Hudson in the school year 2020/2021. If this plan proceeds, the 2nd and 3rd floors of the E building would be used by the school displacing the 60 children in the E building as the VSB is not allowed to rent any enrolling classroom space.

The official waitlist count is currently 134 children. The Board’s Childcare Committee previously had confirmed the policy of taking children in order from the waitlist, after accepting siblings and SCCA preschool children. During this reporting period the policy and practice received further feedback from the community challenging the inclusion of the preschool children with the siblings in getting spaces before the waitlist. The issue was that families that who needed full time childcare were at a disadvantage in getting after school care compared with families who only needed half day preschool. As a result, we discontinued taking preschool children as internal transfers and instead worked to ensure that these families were on the waitlist for after school care and will now be taken in order of the waitlist.

## **PRESCHOOL PROGRAM**

As anticipated, the unfortunate result of the change in the waitlist policy was that the preschool program is not full. We knew that there were families who chose the preschool as a way to ensure a space for their child in the after school care program so this was no surprise. As of April 1, 2019 we have 11 openings in the 3 year old room and 4 openings in the 4 year old room. Fortunately we did not hire a 2nd teacher for the 3 year old room so we are currently operating at 5 open spaces with a capacity of 30 instead of 40 children.

## **FINANCIAL SUMMARY**

We continue to see stabilization in the number of families who needed internal SCCA subsidies as we support them through the process of applying for the childcare subsidy available through the Ministry of Children and family Development. For this reporting period, we saw the monthly average of SCCA “subsidies” decrease to around \$1,500 per month for SLC and Preschool. I would like to thank the Board for supporting us through this past year.

**Respectfully Submitted By:**

**Veronica (Roni) Light**  
SCCA Childcare Coordinator



# THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS!

A Better Life Foundation  
Adam's Apple  
Admiral Seymour Elementary School  
Adult Association for Learning Disabilities  
Arts Umbrella  
BC Centre for Ability  
BC Gaming I Direct Access  
BC Government Child Care Operating Fund  
BC Government - family subsidies  
BC Housing  
BCIT Nursing Program  
BC Recreation and Parks Association  
Benny's Market  
Better Homes for Everyone Foundation  
Bosa Foundation  
Breakfast Club of Canada / Walmart  
Britannia Community Services Centre  
Burnt At Both Endz  
Cadeaux Bakery  
Canada Summer Grant  
Canadian Living Magazine  
Canadian Tire - Jump Start  
Capilano University / Ministry of Advanced Education  
Central City Foundation  
CIBC Wood Gundy  
City of Vancouver  
City of Vancouver - Childcare  
City of Vancouver - Food security staff - Social Planning  
CKNW Orphans Fund  
CLICK Foundation  
Concord Pacific  
Continental Importers  
Cook for Cause  
DP World  
The Dirty Apron  
Discovery Organics  
Duso's  
Environmental Youth Alliance  
European Football School  
Face the World Foundation  
Fresh Direct Produce  
G&F Financial  
Global TV - BC  
The Gourmet Warehouse  
Greater Vancouver Food Bank  
Hamber Foundation

H&M  
HRSDC - Fed Govt - Canada Summer Grant  
HRSDC - Fed Govt  
Hearts of Gold Foundation  
Jerome Outreach Society  
Jenn Worth Insurance via Scotia Bank  
KIA Canada  
Kids Upfront  
Langara Falcons Womens & Mens Basketball Team  
LMBG Media Group  
Lochmaddy Foundation  
Lord Strathcona Elementary School  
Lotus Light Charity Society  
Lucy Woodsworth Foundation  
McCleery Golf Course  
Maria Mimie Ho Foundation  
Matchstick Coffee Roaster  
MCFD - Ministry of Child & Family  
Metro Theatre & Vancouver Sun  
NBA Canada (and Toronto Raptors)  
New Horizons  
Nighthoops  
No Frills  
Nobody's Perfect  
North American Soccer Store  
Not So Fast Food For All  
Secret Lantern Society  
Seycove Secondary School  
Shangri-La Hotel  
Strathcona Health Society  
Strathcona Residents Association  
Sunrise Soya Foods  
Opus Art Supplies  
Pacific Coast Resource Society  
Pathways Canada  
Park Place Foundation  
Peterson Group  
Phnom Penh Restaurant  
Port Metro Vancouver  
PossAbilities  
Potluck Cafe  
Powerex Corporation  
Premium Brands Holding Corporation  
Private & Anonymous Donors  
Project Limelight Society  
Public Health Agency of Canada  
Public Health Agency of Canada - CAP-C - Community Action Program for Children

Push Operations  
Salvation Army  
SBIA Strathcona Business Improvement Association  
Science World - TELUS World of Science  
Seattle Asian Sports Club  
Seedlings Foundation  
SFU Summer Reading Program & Budding Scientists Program  
SFU Womens Basketball Program  
SUCCESS  
St. George's School  
St. Regis Hotel / Roncoroni Hospitality Consulting  
Sunrise Market  
Ray Cam Co-operative Centre  
RBL - Real Basketball League  
Red Fox Healthy Active Living Society  
Rock Basketball  
Rotary Club of Vancouver Sunrise  
UBC - Centre for Community Engaged Learning  
UBC - Learning Exchange  
UBC - Thunderbird - Men & Women's Basketball  
Union Gospel Mission  
Union Market  
Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation  
Vancouver Chinatown Merchants Association  
Vancouver Coastal Health  
Vancouver Foundation Neighbourhood Small Grants  
Vancouver Fruit Tree Project Society  
Vancouver Moving Theatre  
Vancouver Police Department  
Vancouver Police Athletic League  
Vancouver Public Library  
Vancouver School Board  
Vancouver Sun Children's Fund Society  
Vancouver Whitecaps  
Vans  
Variety - The Children's Charity  
Village Vancouver  
The Wilder Snail  
Windermere High School  
Zhu Chi Foundation

**Thank you to our many supporters! It is through the generous contributions of our donors, partners, funders, agencies, organizations and businesses that we are able to make positive impact providing services and programs to those in the community who face diverse challenges.**