



# PATHS

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# PATHS

The Provincial Association of Transition Houses and Services of Saskatchewan

Annual General Meeting

May 28, 2013

425 Winnipeg Street

Regina, Saskatchewan

## Agenda

1. Call to Order
2. Adoption of the Agenda
3. Minutes of Annual General Meeting, June 17, 2013
4. Reports
  - Co-chairs' Report
  - Financial Report
    - Motion: To accept the audited financial statements for April 1, 2013 – March 31, 2014 as circulated and reviewed.
    - Motion: That the yearend for PATHS be March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2014
    - Motion: To appoint Sharon Gimas as auditor for fiscal year April 1, 2013 – March 31, 2014
  - Coordinator's Report
5. Adjourn

**PROVINCIAL ASSOCIATION OF TRANSITION HOUSES & SERVICES**

Annual General Meeting, June 17, 2013

Conference Call – 1:00 p.m.

**PARTICIPANTS:**

Maria Hendrika, Regina Transition House  
Louise Schweitzer, NE Outreach  
Susan Furber, Shelwin House  
Amy Stensrud, Regina YWCA  
Ann McArthur, Battlefords Interval House

Sarah Valli, Sofia House  
Leesa Gross, Shelwin House  
Karen Closs, Moose Jaw Transition House  
Teresa Cole, Swift Current Crisis Centre

Staff: Diane Delaney

1. Call to Order: Co-Chair Karen Closs called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

2. Adoption of the Agenda:

*Motion: Maria Hendrika/Teresa Cole moved that the agenda be adopted as presented.*

**Carried.**

3. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held May 1, 2012:

*Motion: Sarah Valli/Maria Hendrika moved that the minutes of the May 1, 2012 AGM be approved as distributed.*

**Carried.**

4. Reports:

*Motion: Karen Closs/Maria Hendrika moved that the Co-Chair report be accepted.*

**Carried.**

*Motion: Maria Hendrika/Ann McArthur moved that the financial statements for the year ending March 31, 2013 be accepted as circulated and reviewed.*

**Carried.**

*Motion: Teresa Cole/Sarah Valli moved that the yearend for PATHS be March 31, 2014.*

**Carried.**

*Motion: Ann McArthur/Maria Hendrika moved to appoint Sharon Gimas to complete the financial review for the fiscal year April 1, 2013 to March 31, 2014.*

**Carried.**

*Motion: Amy Stensrud/Teresa Cole moved to accept the Coordinator's report as circulated and presented.*

**Carried.**

5. By-Law Changes:

*Motion: Sarah Valli/Amy Stensrud moved to accept the changes to Articles 3, 8, and 10 as circulated and presented.*

**Carried.**

6. Adjourn:

*Motion: Karen Closs adjourned the meeting at 1:20 p.m.*

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Chairperson

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Secretary

PATHS  
Provincial Association of Transition Houses and Services of Saskatchewan  
Annual General Meeting  
May 28, 2014  
Co-Chair's Report

I would like to thank everyone for joining us this morning at our Annual General Meeting.

As a Co-Chair I continue to be impressed with the level of dedication and commitment shown by the staff, the Provincial Coordinator, and my Board colleagues, toward our mission of ending all violence against women and children. It is an honour and a pleasure to be a part of this association.

We continue to move along with our identified goals of supporting women and community partners with addressing issues of violence against women and girls, educating the public on violence against women, facilitating networking amongst shelters and services, actively communicating with the government, supporting staff throughout the province in our member agencies, and providing training opportunity for PATHS members.

As the demand for our services increase, so do our operating challenges. Once again, our team welcomed a new temporary staff member due to the continuing expansion of projects being explored by PATHS. Throughout the years, our dedicated employees participate in information and challenging training opportunities that will facilitate the continued development of their professional knowledge and expertise. The upcoming fiscal year is promising exciting opportunity for all to experience reflection, change, organizational development, and professional and personal growth.

On behalf of the Board of Directors – I extend my heartfelt gratitude to Diane & Crystal for their continuing outstanding advocacy and support to the victims of violence against women and children. You both are the heart and soul of this association.

The province should be extremely proud of the work done by PATHS. We are truly fortunate to have an association with such a clear and articulate feminist vision and mission in our province.

Thank you for caring to make a difference.

Respectfully Submitted by:  
Sandy Bashnick & Kim Fisher  
Co-Chairs

PATHS  
Provincial Association of Transition Houses and Services of Saskatchewan  
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Provincial Coordinator's Report

**SWC Project - Community Planning to Reduce Violence Against Women and Girls in Rural Communities and Small Urban Centres in Canada**

With the presentations of the Origins of Violence completed in our five participating communities, Melfort, Swift Current, LaRonge, North Battleford and Moose Jaw, we moved on to the next stage of the project which was designing the community plans. We produced 5 community plans which can be used to support the communities in their actions to address the issue of violence. The Executive Directors of each community chose one project for each community which the PATHS office is supporting. Our evaluator is interviewing people as the project unfolds and we look forward to the first evaluation report in the new fiscal year.

**Shelter Standards**

Shelter Directors completed their Self-Evaluation Process and designed the next phase of the evaluation of the standards which is Peer Evaluation. Through interviews of the Executive Directors and a survey of shelter workers we were able to evaluate the process to date. Specifically we looked at people's experience with Implementation, Development, Sustainability and Awareness. An Evaluation document was produced which indicated that overall the experience was a positive one with participants feeling optimistic about using the standards into the future. The next phase of the evaluation will involve reviewing the feedback from clients which has begun to be collected this year.

**Support to Members**

Our board meetings were held in October 2013 and February 2014 where we kept current policies up to date, defined committee structures and adopted a succession planning framework. We heard dynamic speakers on the issues of Gender Identity and HIV and pregnancy. The document the Profession of Shelter and Service Work was published after Crystal Giesbrecht, the Director of Member Programs and Services and Kim Fellner, Adult Education Consultant, who we were able to employ on a part-time temporary basis, made a round the province trip to talk to Directors and Shelter and Service Workers. This document can be used as a hiring tool and also allowed us to define the nature of the work we do based on the data gathered from the interviews. We continued with the distribution of phones through the Phones for a Fresh Start Programme which has become a popular programme for our member agencies.

One of the highlights of the year was the PATHS Commitment to Excellence Conference where staff were introduced to many new ideas and programmes. Member agency employees also learned about legal issues and services through the legal training workshops facilitated by PATHS, with the goal of providing a broader range of referral and information sources that member agency staff can access to assist then providing the best possible services to their clients. Presentations at the Building Service Capacity training included presentations from 10 lawyers, the Special Investigations Unit at the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations, the Commission for Public Complaints Against the RCMP, the office of the Advocate for Children and Youth and many others.

### **Public Education and Information**

We are very proud to continue to be responsible for the Abuse Help Lines in partnership with SaskTel and Direct West. We continue to distribute our Fact Sheets and brochures at community events and engage in public speaking at various venues including the University and the RESOLVE Conference in Calgary. We provide training to the RCMP cadets and train other shelter and service workers to present as well. We continue to be involved with the Community Partners Against Violence Breakfast which has had another successful event in October.

### **Research**

PATHS continues as the community lead for the Community University Research Alliance (CURA) project lead by Dr. Mary Hampton at the University of Regina. The project continues to produce research and disseminate information on the topic of violence against women in rural and remote areas. We produced the paper 'Like Any Other Job?: An Analysis of Potential Changes to Canada's Prostitution Legislation' which explores the legal and moral issues surrounding the impending changes to Canada's prostitution legislation.

### **Community Committees**

PATHS is represented on the STOPS to Violence Board of Directors, the Rural and Remote Advisory Board which is part of the federal governments housing initiative, the Canadian Network of Women's Shelters and Transition Houses Board of Directors and Committees as well as acting as a resource whenever our expertise might be required.

Respectfully Submitted by  
Diane Delaney  
Provincial Coordinator