

Annual Report 2021



Chairperson's Report

As Board Chair of PATHS, I would like to thank everyone involved this year for making a difference in people's lives in our communities, province and country. PATHS' Mission is to support and collaborate with member agencies and others to address, prevent and ultimately to eliminate intimate partner and family violence. We are truly living our values of Professionalism, Equality, and Knowledge in this we are a strong united front against violence.

We have shared in many successes over the past year. Our success would not be possible without Jo-Anne and Crystal who are instrumental in the daily operations of PATHS. Thank you to the staff for their commitment and dedication for our vision of communities that are free from intimate partner and family violence.

There have been many memorable moments this past year but the one that stands out to me is Clare's Law. On June 29, 2020, *The Interpersonal Violence Disclosure Protocol (Clare's Law) Act* came into force in Saskatchewan. Clare's Law allows police to disclose information that could help protect potential victims of interpersonal violence. Saskatchewan residents are now able to make an application at their local police station for the release of information on an intimate partner's past violent or abusive behaviour. This is a monumental milestone in the future of the individuals we support within the province.

A special thank you to this year's Board of Directors and Staff for all your hard work and dedication. As my Board Chair term comes to an end I want to thank the Board of Directors for giving me the opportunity to lead such a fabulous group of people that make a difference in the lives of the people we serve.

On behalf of the Board of Directors - I extend my heartfelt gratitude to Jo-Anne & Crystal for their continuing outstanding advocacy and support to the victims of violence against women and children. You two 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 vision and mission in our province. Thank you for caring to make a difference.

"Helping one person might not change the world, but it could change the world for one person."

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sandy Bashnick". The script is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of "Sandy" and "Bashnick" being capitalized and prominent.

Treasurer's Report

After reviewing the audit documents, I would like to summarize the highlights of the findings. During the course of our audit, there was not a deficiency identified that met the definition of a significant deficiency. In the opinion of the Auditor, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Provincial Association of Transition Houses and Services of Saskatchewan Inc., as of March 31, 2021, and its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then in accordance with Canadian Accounting Standards for Not-for-profit Organizations.

Credit Risk:

Credit risk refers to the risk that a counterparty may default on its contractual obligations resulting in a financial loss.

The association's principal financial assets are cash, accrued interest receivable and guaranteed term investments. The association does not have significant exposure to any individual customer and has not incurred any significant bad debts during the year. The association is not exposed to significant interest rate, currency or credit risks.

Liquidity risk:

Liquidity risk is the risk that the association will not be able to meet a demand for cash or fund its obligations as they come due. Liquidity risk also includes the risk of the association not being able to liquidate assets in a timely manner at a reasonable price.

The Association has current assets in Term investments in the amount of \$60,438. This is a 87.5% increase from 2020. The total current assets that include cash on hand, has increased from \$146,750 by 500 % to a total of \$742,674.00 for the fiscal year ending March 2022.

The deferred amount of \$465,409 are funds that have been allocated for services not yet performed. This amount must stay available and classified on the organization balance sheet.

Also, of note is the excess of revenues over expenses, in the amount of \$112,389. This is almost triple the surplus of revenues over expenses than the fiscal year 2020-21.

This surplus is directly influenced by the revenues from grants income as well as earned income. The earned income does give the organization a measure of unprecedented financial security going into the fiscal year 2021-22.



Executive Director's Report

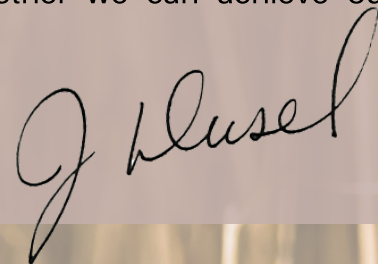
The years 2020 and 2021 will be long remembered for their impact around the world. The global pandemic of COVID-19 has killed millions world-wide and over 25,000 individuals here in Canada. Many more have been impacted through non-fatal illness and loss of family members. At the same time, there was a parallel pandemic taking place, the pandemic of gender-based violence. Public health measures intended to prevent the spread of the virus sent many workers home, either in layoffs or to work from home. The isolation necessary for one pandemic was an additional risk factor for the other. Police reported violence increased while many shelters became eerily quiet. Counseling services had to be done by phone or online. Shelters reduced capacity to allow for social distancing while remaining open. PATHS member agencies continued to provide service to those impacted by violence throughout it all.

We did our best to support our members by offering opportunities to share concerns and promising practices at regular Zoom check-in meetings. We collaborated with experts across Canada in the development of information sheets outlining the impact COVID and the public health measures could have on victims. We consulted with government officials, spoke to the media and worked with funders to coordinate financial support for our member agencies. And we, too, were forced to adapt to the circumstances. PATHS conference shifted from the planned, in-person event in May to a two-day virtual conference in November. Our training activities all moved online. The use of video conferencing exploded and we spent more time in meetings than ever before. The generosity of our communities also expanded and PATHS received significant financial donations to assist us in our work.

This past year has also seen a major reckoning with systemic racial injustice, shining a light on longstanding inequities suffered by First Nations, Metis, and Inuit peoples; Black people and other racialized groups. Rising levels of xenophobic rhetoric, and hate crimes against Muslim and Asian people have been met by masses taking to the streets to demand an end to these injustices. We are reminded of the necessity of ensuring that our work reflects our intersectional feminist values.

Through all this, our regular work has continued. March 31, 2021 marked the end of a five-year journey of learning for PATHS with the completion of our *nato' we ho win* project. Our sincere thanks and appreciation go out to everyone involved with the project!

Thank you to Director of Research and Communications, Crystal Giesbrecht, for ten years of diligent service at PATHS. You are a credit to our organization. Thanks to the Advisory Council who help steer our course, and to the Board of Directors who ensure that we stay on-track. Many thanks to our funders and donors - you make our work possible. Together we can achieve our vision of communities free from intimate partner and family violence.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Hulse", is positioned in the bottom right corner of the page. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized initial "J".

Conference 2020



PATHS Conference 2020 featured keynote speakers Pamela Cross and Marilyn Poitras, and was guided by Elder Lorna Standingready

Financial support was provided by:

The conference included key note speakers Pamela Cross (When Law Does Not Equal Justice: Family Law and Violence Against Women), Marilyn Poitras (Violence, Brutality and Death: Whose Issue is This and What is the Story We Tell Ourselves About it?). Presenters included author and survivor Kendra Weenie. Writer and surviving family member of a victim of domestic homicide, Leah Perrault. Research topics included a presentation by the Canadian Domestic Homicide Prevention Initiative with Vulnerable Populations (Julie Poon), and PATHS' own intervention research project nato' we ho win – The Art of Self-Healing (Crystal Giesbrecht and Barbara Frazer). Attendees gained insight into legislation and programs to support victims through presentations on Protective Orders for Victims of Intimate Partner Violence, Firearms Licensing Regulations and Victims of Domestic Violence, the Violence Against Women Advocate Case Review process, information on the Parole Board of Canada and how they can support survivors, Clare's Law, Separation and Divorce in Situations of Intimate Partner Violence, and Mediation: A Process for Difficult Situations. Information on recognizing risk to victims was provided in presentations on Non-Fatal Strangulation in Intimate Partner Violence and Universal Screening for Non-State Torture. Because of the difficult nature of the material, self-care sessions were interspersed throughout the conference, conducted by Tracy Knutson of STOPS to Violence.



Professional streaming service provided by Eyepowered Media

nato'we ho win - The Art of Self-Healing

nato' we ho win is a trauma-and-violence-informed, artistic, and cultural program where participants engage in cultural and creative activities to increase stress management skills, social support networks, and knowledge of traditional Indigenous culture and to address issues related to intimate partner violence. A program manual and facilitator guide were developed so that this program can be replicated. *nato' we ho win – The Art of Self-Healing*, was funded by the Public Health Agency of Canada. You can find more information about *nato' we ho win* here: pathssk.org/nato-we-ho-win



nato' we ho win
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nato' we ho win: The Art of Self-Healing
An Artistic and Cultural Program
for Indigenous Women Who Have
Experienced Intimate Partner Violence



“It taught me patience,
and taught me that I
can make something
beautiful just from my
hands.”

"Being in the group now has helped me see I'm not alone and that we're all at different stages in our lives, and it does make life bearable. There are some issues that happened during the group, and being here really, really, really helped me emotionally and mentally to let go of that and have a safe circle where you can share that information, and feel supported..."

"And I can honestly say this is the best thing, I can say besides being a mother, that's happened to me cultural-wise and knowing where we are and who is part of our community, and what we can give to our community as First Nation's women and teach them who we are and what we have to offer and we're here, and this is what we're going to do. Anything I can give back, whether it's help or educate or even listen, I'm there as long as I get to participate and learn more about our culture and the women who are involved and the community that's involved as well. And I'm thrilled."



PATHS Training - Understanding the Dynamics of Domestic Violence for Family Law Professionals

Approved for CPD credits by law societies across Western Canada

What our participants said:

"The shared professional experiences of the presenters, as well as their exceptional ability to draw stories from participants, added significant details and examples that helped to facilitate comprehension and memory."

"The screening tools will be the most valuable in my practice but the information and knowledge gained in this training will help to identify issues and further investigate/interview clients in the screening process."

"The presenters were great, knowledgeable, passionate about their work. I would definitely recommend the course, I am glad I took the course, and will be recommending it to others."

"Very informative information on understanding and recognizing the signs of domestic violence and how it effects women, and children now and in the future. It really brought to my attention of why women may stay at the hands of the abuser especially when there are children involved. I have learned many skills that will assist me as a mediator and arbitrator."

"I really enjoyed (as much as one can enjoy a training on this topic) this course. Presenters were extremely knowledgeable and shared the information in a caring and concise way. It was a lot of information packed into 4 mornings - but was really worth it. I would recommend this training to others."

"I found the information on the behaviors of a perpetrator useful in recognizing one; learning the terminology is useful too; how to approach discussing with a victim or perpetrator; the resources and lists."

Public Awareness Campaigns

PATHS Provincial Association of Transition Houses
and Services of Saskatchewan

You are not alone

Do you feel unsafe in your home?
Transition Houses offer free support and shelter for women and children.



انتي مش لخالک
ਤੂੰ ਸੀ ਇਕਲੇ ਨਹੀਂ
تو تنها نیستی.
妳並不孤單

For a list of resources in your area, please visit
ABUSEHELPLINES.ORG

لا تشعرين بالامان في بيتك؟
البيوت الانتقالية تقدم المأوى والدعم
المجاني للنساء واطفالهن

آيا تو، در خانه ات، احساس ناامنی می کنی؟
خانه های "ترنزیشن" زن ها و بچه ها را به طور
رایگان حمایت می کنند و پناه می دهند.

ਕਿ ਤੁਸੀਂ ਅਪਣੇ ਘਰ ਵਿਚ ਅਸੁਰਸ਼ਿਤ ਮਹਿਸੂਸ ਕਰਦੇ ਹੋ?
ਟਰਾਂਜਿਸ਼ਨ ਹਾਊਸ ਔਰਤਾਂ ਅਤੇ ਬੱਚਿਆਂ ਲਈ ਮੁਫਤ ਸੇਵਾਵਾਂ
ਅਤੇ ਰਹਿਣ ਲਈ ਘਰ ਪ੍ਰਦਾਨ ਕਰਦਾ ਹੈ!

當妳在家時有沒有感到不安全？
婦幼之家免費提供妳與妳的孩子
一個安全可靠的避風港。

As part of the emergency response to COVID, funds were made available to women serving organizations through the Canadian Women's Foundation to address the needs of victims of violence and abuse. We chose to reach out to survivors to let them know that services are available and had remained opened throughout the pandemic. We made a special effort to reach those who had barriers to seeking services - those living in rural areas and newcomers to Canada. We worked with Rawlco radio to develop a series of radio ads that played across their six radio stations from the southern border up to La Ronge. We also worked with the BC Society of Transition Houses and received permission to adapt their You are Not Alone campaign, which provides information in several languages, to Saskatchewan.

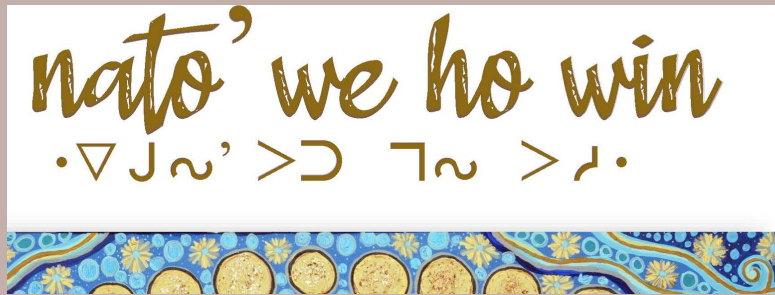
You are Not Alone ads are currently playing on community radio stations CJTR (Regina) and CFCR (Saskatoon) in English, Arabic, Farsi, and Punjabi.

Click here to listen to the radio ads

Intimate Partner Violence (IPV), Animal Abuse, and Animal Safekeeping



In 2020, separate surveys were conducted with service providers (human service and animal welfare professionals), the general public, and survivors. Interviews with survivors were also conducted. Journal articles reporting the results are currently undergoing peer-review and research results have been communicated in a conference presentation and in a webinar. This research was funded and conducted by PATHS. Research results will inform our Working to End Violence initiative in collaboration with the Saskatchewan SPCA and STOPS to Violence, which includes the development of a business plan for pet-friendly domestic violence shelters.



Along with the development and delivery of the *nato' we ho win* program our four-year project funded by the Public Health Agency of Canada included intervention research. Indigenous women who participated in *nato' we ho win* completed quantitative measures of well-being at intake, at the end of the program, and one year later and participated in focus groups at group end and one-year. Reports and journal articles detailing the research results are forthcoming. Results of the quantitative and qualitative research provide evidence that engagement in *nato' we ho win* had a positive impact on participants' well-being.

IPV and COVID-19 in

Rural, Remote, and Northern Canada

Early on in the pandemic, PATHS Director of Research and Communications worked with colleagues in the Northwest Territories, Alberta, British Columbia, and Ontario on an article that was published in the *Journal of Family Violence* in the fall.

Newcomer Women Who Experience IPV



This project was a partnership between researchers at PATHS, University of Regina, University of Calgary, University of Manitoba, and Saskatoon Open Door. Individual interviews were conducted with 33 Newcomer women who had experienced IPV as well as focus groups with 62 service providers who work with and support Newcomer victims/survivors. The research report *Needs of Newcomer Women Who Experience Intimate Partner Violence: Adjusting to New Life in the Prairies* was completed and shared with partners and policymakers in the fall of 2020 and launched publicly in January 2021. Results have been shared at conferences and reported at a meeting of PATHS Advisory Council. Journal articles are currently in progress. This Tri-provincial research project, which was funded by the Prairieaction Foundation, began in 2017 and concluded in 2020.

IPV Intervention Programs in Saskatchewan

In 2020, in partnership with the University of Regina, a survey and interviews were conducted with professionals who deliver interventions for individuals who perpetrate IPV. Data analysis is ongoing and research results will be shared with members and other stakeholders in the coming year.

Promoting Access to Justice for Survivors of Intimate Partner Violence

PATHS was funded by the Law Foundation of Saskatchewan to conduct a two-year project January 2019 - January 2021 to address intimate partner violence (IPV) in Saskatchewan with a focus on reducing barriers to justice and an overall reduction in incidents and impacts of IPV. The project plan called for PATHS to work collaboratively with the Saskatchewan Ministry of Justice and our member agencies to collectively identify issues and work towards solutions. This project brought together stakeholders involved with the legal/justice system response to IPV to work towards evidence-based promising practices and legislation designed to support survivors and appropriate services for offenders in order to reduce the incidence of IPV in Saskatchewan.



The working group collaborated over the course of the two-year project and included members from the Ministry of Justice (including Family Justice Services, Prosecutions, Victim Services, Interpersonal Violence and Abuse Unit, and Dispute Resolution Office), Ministry of Corrections and Policing, Ministry of Social Services, Legal Aid, RCMP, Saskatchewan Association of Chiefs of Police, Athabasca Health Authority, and PATHS.

Recommendations were made to address the following issues: children exposed to violence, risk assessment, service accessibility in rural, remote and northern areas and services for those who use violence in relationships.

Lending our voice to the discussion on a National Action Plan on Gender-Based Violence

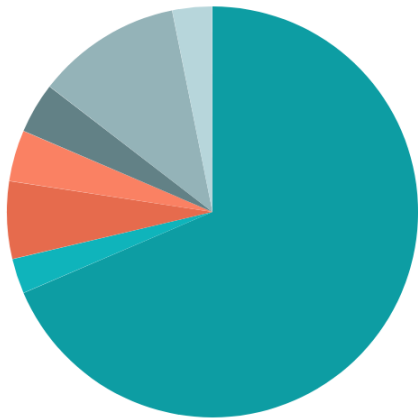
PATHS participated in YWCA Canada's Community Engagement process by consulting with our Advisory Council, as well as an online survey for the general public with additional questions for agencies which provide service and support to victims/survivors of Gender-Based Violence (GBV). We also provided additional information to the consultation based on our work, including recommendations from our project Promoting Access to Justice for Survivors of Intimate Partner Violence in Saskatchewan and other recent work.

Women's Shelters Canada Roadmap to a National Action Plan

Women's Shelters Canada was funded by Women and Gender Equality Canada to conduct a consultation with experts in GBV from across the country. The resulting report *Roadmap to the National Action Plan on Violence Against Women and Gender-Based Violence* was recently released. PATHS' Executive Director Co-Chaired the initiative's Working Group on Support for Survivors and Their Families.



Financial Report



Grants (68.55%) Memberships (2.76%)
Conference (6.11%) Donations (4.03%)
Training (4%) Professional fees (11.41%)
Other income (3.14%)

Revenue

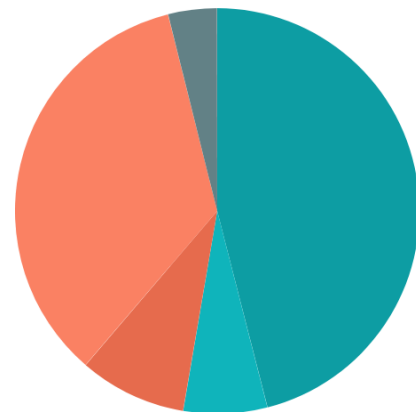
Grants: \$286,244
Memberships: \$11,508
Conference: \$25,499
Donations: \$16,833
Training: \$16,711
Professional fees: \$47,629
Other income: \$13,125

Total: \$417,549

Expenses

Salaries and benefits: \$140,397
Administration: \$20,457
Occupancy costs: \$26,159
Program expense: \$106,246
Conference expense: \$11,901

Total: \$305,160



Salaries and benefits (46.01%)
Administration (6.7%) Occupancy costs (8.57%)
Program expenses (34.82%)
Conference expense (3.9%)

Excess of revenue over expenses: \$122,389

Reserve funds: \$60,436

A BIG thank you to all those who make our work possible!

Donors

Cecil Nagy
Danny Tanner
Daphne and Phillip Walsh
Doug and Jackie Shaw
George Clark
Ilona and Gregor Beck
Janice Hales
Jennifer Bowes
Jennifer Toews
Jill Raddysh
Kahkashan Khan
Kathleen Thompson
Kendra Sebastian
Leonard and Helen Kutz
Lily Foundation
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Sask Power
The Wireless Age
Tracy Knutson
Wynter Phillip

Funders

