



ANNUAL REPORT 2023-2024

STRONGER FOUNDATIONS



WE ACKNOWLEDGE THAT THE WORK OF OUR ORGANIZATION TAKES PLACE ACROSS THE ANCESTRAL, UNCEDED AND TRADITIONAL TERRITORIES OF MANY INDIGENOUS PEOPLES ACROSS THE PROVINCE. OUR OFFICES ARE LOCATED ON THE TERRITORIES OF THE MUSQUEAM, SQUAMISH, AND TSLEIL-WAUTUTH NATIONS.

WE ALSO RECOGNIZE THAT CURRENT AND HISTORIC COLONIAL STRUCTURES EXACERBATE THE HARM THAT INDIGENOUS WOMEN, GIRLS AND TWO-SPIRIT FOLKS FACE WHEN EXPERIENCING VIOLENCE AND ACCESSING SERVICES, SAFETY AND JUSTICE.

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HIGHLIGHTS OF OUR YEAR

01

Supporting Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General (MPSSG) to launch funding for 70 Sexual Assault Services (SAS) programs and five Sexual Assault Centres (SAC).

02

Advising the Gender Equity Office to develop *Safe and Supported: British Columbia's Gender-Based Violence Action Plan*.

03

Strengthening connections between anti-violence work and healthcare through the launch of the Hope2Health Hub.

[See page 07 for the full story.](#)

ANNUAL REPORT

APRIL 1, 2023 TO MARCH 31, 2024

EVA BC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

SHERI BISHOP, Co-Chair
REGION 5
Interior
Nicola Family Therapy

LYNNELL HALIKOWSKI, Co-Chair
REGION 10
North Central
Prince George Sexual Assault
Centre

DONALDA BEESON
REGION 11
North East
Robson Valley Community
Services

ANNE DAVIS
ADVISORY SEAT
North Vancouver Island
Comox Valley Transition Society

SAMANTHA LOPPIE
REGION 2
South Vancouver Island
Victoria Sexual Assault Centre

VICTORIA RUNGE
REGION 8
West Kootenay
Islands Wellness Society

MELISSA SCOTT
REGION 1
North Vancouver Island
Comox Valley Family
Services Association

DEANNA SUDNIK
FLOATING SEAT (REGION 11)
North East
South Peace Community
Resources Society

MISSION

EVA BC works collaboratively to improve prevention and response systems that support communities impacted by gender-based violence, harassment and hate.

VISION

EVA BC envisions a society free from gender-based violence.

CORE VALUES

- > Respect
- > Collaboration
- > Integrity
- > Compassion



LEADERSHIP MESSAGE

Working Together to Support Survivors and Workers

Worker wellness has been top-of-mind for EVA BC staff, board, and the leadership across our sector.

Our Annual Training Forum (ATF) 2023 was built around the theme of “worker wellness” and we shared the *Invitation to Wellness* workbook as a tool for anti-violence workers to reflect on their own wellness. As an organization, we’ve continued to prioritize wellness in our communities of practice, our training development, and at our ATF.

After the Emergency Sexual Assault Services (ESAS) grant program ended last year, we were thrilled that our advocacy work paid off with the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General (MPSSG) now funding 70 Sexual Assault Services (SAS) programs and 5 Sexual Assault Centres (SACs) across the province.

This year we have worked closely with the new services that respond to sexual assault, built 2SLGBTQQIA+ and anti-racism training, and will share revised resources for Third Party Reporting (TPR), Interagency Case Assessment Teams (ICAT) and SAS workers soon.

Our work on the *Hope2Health* project created informal networks between the healthcare and anti-violence sectors to better respond and act on sexual assault; with the launch of the online *Hope2Health* Hub on the EVA BC website we now share information on best practices for sexual assault service providers.

Our new Advocacy Strategy has a vision to create greater awareness of gender-based violence and the value of the anti-violence sector in supporting survivors.

And our work doesn’t stop within the anti-violence sector; through our *Be More than a Bystander* program we have continued to build bridges with male-dominated industries to deliver messages to create safer workplaces for all.

Thank you to our members, funders, partners – and a special thank you to our staff. You all understand that working together across differences makes us most effective and ultimately decreases the levels of violence in our society.

Ninu Kang
Executive Director



SPECIALIZED TRAINING

In early 2024, we launched three new courses on our Online Training Hub:

- Working Together: An Orientation to EVA BC
- Queering Anti-Violence Work
- Anti-Racism for Anti-Violence Workers

Anti-Racism for Anti-Violence Workers aimed to increase knowledge and skills to address unconscious bias and provide more equitable services to Black, Indigenous and People of Colour (BIPOC+) victims/survivors of gender-based violence.

We piloted the anti-racism training with 50 anti-violence workers from across BC, many of whom have worked in the sector for over 10 years. The training consisted of a blended learning pathway, combining self-paced online learning modules with virtual facilitated sessions.

We were grateful to work with a project advisory committee of frontline anti-violence workers from across program types (Community-Based Victim Services, Stopping the Violence Counselling, Outreach Services, Multicultural Outreach Services, and Sexual Assault Services), who shared their wisdom and insights.

After our successful pilot, we look forward to supporting the next cohort of learners in 2024-2025!

RESOURCES

In Fall 2023, we launched a new resource, *Invitation to Wellness: A workbook for anti-violence workers*.

The workbook reflects on what we heard from more than 100 anti-violence workers across BC in response to the question “What does wellness mean to you?” In the workbook, we invite anti-violence workers in frontline and leadership roles to explore ideas and practices that improve wellness through awareness, balance, and connection.

The workbook also aims to guide conversations within teams and support workplace wellness across the anti-violence sector.

PROVINCIAL SERVICES

EVA BC’s Provincial Services, funded by the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General (MPSSG), provide ongoing support, information, training, and resources to frontline workers and leadership in community-based anti-violence programs. We share information about training and funding opportunities, resources, and other updates through our newsletters and website. We also provide one-on-one email and phone-based support and consultation and facilitate networking opportunities for the programs across BC. Our program support team is available to debrief, answer questions, and share tools to support frontline workers and leadership.

Learn more about our provincial services by visiting our anti-violence worker support pages at endingviolence.org/program-support-services/.



ACCESS TO JUSTIN

JUSTIN is an integrated justice case management system. It contains 15 years of adult and youth case information and some of the most sensitive criminal court information and updates that could impact safety for survivors.

EVA BC has advocated for many years to grant Community-Based Victim Services (CBVS) workers access to information in JUSTIN.

We have been working together with the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General (MPSSG) and there is renewed interest by government to provide more access to information in JUSTIN for CBVS workers.

WHAT WE HEARD FROM COMMUNITY-BASED VICTIM SERVICES (CBVS) WORKERS

In our March 2024 survey, we heard from 61 CBVS workers in communities across BC. Over half (56%) of whom require information from JUSTIN daily, while another third (34%) need to access information from JUSTIN on a weekly basis. Close to half (48%) need to access more than 20 court updates per month.

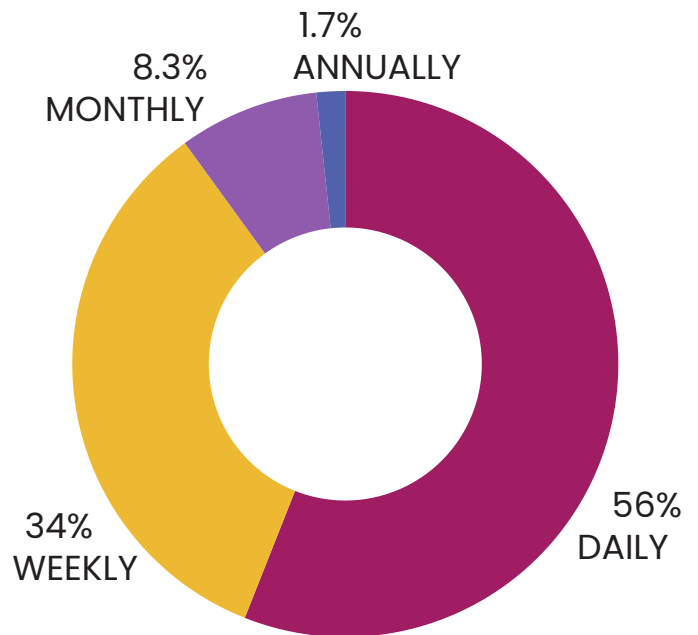
Most CBVS workers (69%) need to connect with two to three people before they can get the information they need from JUSTIN. It can take hours for workers to find and connect with the right person and get the information they need. Most often, CBVS workers get information from JUSTIN through Court Services Online, Crown Counsel, and the Victim Safety Unit.



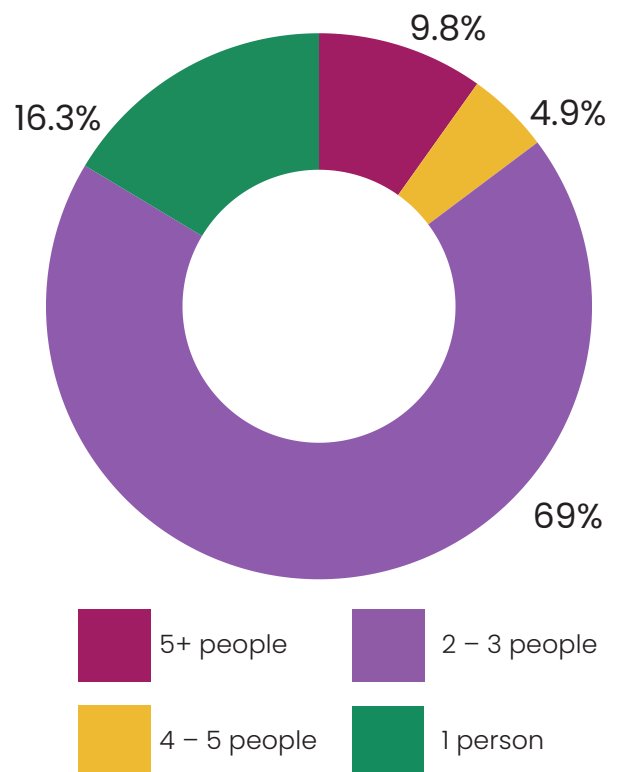
ACCESS TO JUSTIN WOULD INCREASE CBVS ABILITY TO PROVIDE NECESSARY INFORMATION TO CLIENTS IN A TIMELY MANNER AND INCREASE THEIR SAFETY AND FELT SAFETY.

— SURVEY RESPONDENT

HOW FREQUENTLY DO YOU CURRENTLY NEED TO ACCESS COURT UPDATES FROM JUSTIN?



WHAT IS THE AVERAGE NUMBER OF CONTACTS YOU HAVE TO MAKE TO OBTAIN A COURT UPDATE?



COMMUNITY COORDINATION FOR SURVIVOR SAFETY (CCSS)

This year the Community Coordination for Survivor Safety (CCSS, formerly Community Coordination for Women’s Safety) team held in-person training sessions to support coordination initiatives in **five communities**. The team also provided virtual support to develop and enhance coordination initiatives in over **45 communities** across the province.

The CCSS team presented on Third Party Reporting (TPR) at the Native Courtworker and Counselling Association of BC (NCCABC)’s *Indigenous Ways on Ending Gender Based Violence* forum (September 2023).

CCSS COMMUNITIES OF PRACTICE (CoPs)

CCSS hosted and facilitated two Communities of Practice (CoPs) for Interagency Case Assessment Teams (ICATs) and two CoPs for other coordination initiatives. These CoPs are opportunities for coordination initiatives across the province to strengthen relationships and learn from each other.

Some of the topics discussed included challenges with the justice system, coordination training needs, and general trends and challenges in community coordination (such as lack of funding, limited services in rural communities, transportation challenges, and high staff turnover).



Over the course of the last year, our CCSS team held seven training sessions across five communities:

- Salmon Arm/Shuswap
- Prince Rupert
- Surrey
- North Shore
- Tofino

We also held two online province-wide training sessions and two online community-specific training sessions.

CCSS WORKING GROUP

Our provincial CCSS Working Group meets twice a year with representatives from over 35 agencies including senior levels of government (e.g. Ministry of Children and Family Development, and Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General) as well as provincial associations such as the Disability Alliance of BC (DABC), Police Victim Services of BC (PVSBC), Living in Community (LIC) and West Coast Legal Education Action Fund (LEAF).

This year the Group focused on:

- The BC Bad Date and Aggressor Reporting (BC BDAR) Project,
- Third Party Reporting (TPR) in British Columbia,
- The Stand Informed Independent Legal Advice Service for survivors of sexual assault by the Community Legal Assistance Society (CLAS), and
- The collaboration between the Representative for Children and Youth (RCY), the BC Child and Youth Advocacy Centres (CYAC) and EVA BC to address the topics of sexual violence issues for youth, including mature minors and TPR.

EVA BC'S ADVOCACY STRATEGY

Based on feedback from our member programs, our staff and board of directors, EVA BC has developed an advocacy strategy with a vision to increase awareness of the seriousness of gender-based violence and the value of the anti-violence sector in supporting survivors. In the coming year, EVA BC will be focused on bringing our strategic advocacy priorities into action. We've identified three major goals:

Goal 1 – Supported Survivors:

Meaningful options and responsive services

Goal 2 – Supported Workers:

Increased capacity for coordination, service delivery and leadership

Goal 3 – Responsive Systems:

Increased accountability of systems responding to gender-based violence

HOPE2HEALTH HUB

In March 2024, EVA BC launched the *Hope2Health* Hub – a provincial online resource for healthcare professionals and community-based Sexual Assault Service (SAS) providers. The goal of the Hub is to enhance knowledge and best practices by addressing gaps in existing services and connecting service providers to relevant information. This initiative was funded by Women and Gender Equality Canada (WAGE).

The Hub includes information about survivor healthcare rights, trauma-informed support, medical care and forensic exam options, clinical practice guidelines, mental health and substance use support, training, and where to access services.

Although sexual assault survivors may not always have physical injuries, it is still important for them to consider getting medical care for their health and well-being. The *Hope2Health* Hub seeks to ensure that survivors get accurate information about sexual assault healthcare options and community-based anti-violence support to access preventative treatments and timely care.

PROVINCIAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE UNIT (DVU) NETWORK

The Provincial Domestic Violence Unit (DVU) Network is comprised of nine DVUs or Intimate Partner Violence Units (IPVUs) across the province. These Units work with a multidisciplinary approach consisting of police, community-based victim services, and in some cases, the Ministry of Children and Family Development. The purpose of the Provincial DVU Network is to improve communication, information sharing, and relationship building through coordinated and collaborative responses to IPV in British Columbia.

EVA BC and MPSSG held two Provincial DVU Network coordination meetings on October 16 and December 18, 2023, to discuss the direction of the Network, training opportunities and ways to enhance Network member connections.

A meeting was held with Provincial DVU Network members on August 3, 2023, to discuss intimate partner violence (IPV) specific training topics.

Overall, a total of five trainings were hosted online:

- **May 16, 2023** – Strangulation, Gael Strack and Joe Bianco, Training Institute on Strangulation Prevention
- **May 18, 2023** – Intimate Partner Violence and Traumatic Brain Injury, Karen Mason, Supporting Survivors of Abuse and Brain Injury through Research (SOAR)
- **November 16, 2023** – Response-Based Practice, Dr. Allan Wade, Centre for Response-Based Practice
- **December 5, 2023** – IPV with Elders, Marnie Stickley, Elder Abuse Unit, Vancouver Police Department
- **January 9, 2024** – Tech-Facilitated Intimate Partner Violence, Rhiannon Wong, Women's Shelters Canada

The Provincial DVU Network hosted an in-person event in March 2024 – the first since 2019 – to facilitate coordination across the province. The first day focused on exploring what members are seeing and needing as support from the Network. Members also identified Network gaps, trends, successes and ways to strengthen provincial connections. Dr. Allan Wade delivered a full day session on Response-Based Practice on the second day.

OUR 2023 ANNUAL TRAINING FORUM

From September 20 to 21, 2023, we returned to an in-person Annual Training Forum and welcomed more than 260 participants from programs and sectors that respond to gender-based violence across the province. Our theme for 2023 was Working Together for Wellness: Improving anti-violence and healthcare supports.

Our keynote speaker was Dr. Danièle Behn Smith, BC's Deputy Provincial Health Officer who delivered her presentation, Indigenous Health, Working together for wellness: unlearning and undoing white supremacy and anti-Indigenous racism to improve anti-violence and healthcare supports. You can find a recording of her keynote by visiting our YouTube channel ([@endviolencebc](#)) and navigating to [ATF 2023 Keynote: Dr. Danièle Behn Smith](#).

Our forum hosted educational skill-building workshops, wellness sessions, and larger plenary gatherings that included an engaging networking session and a panel of leaders across interconnected rural and remote communities who shared stories on improving anti-violence and healthcare coordination to support survivors.



ALL OF THE PEOPLE ACROSS THE SECTOR COMING TOGETHER TO SUPPORT EACH OTHER SO WE CAN SUPPORT CLIENTS IS A BEAUTIFUL THING TO SEE: SO MANY LIKE-MINDED PEOPLE TOGETHER WORKING TOWARDS A COMMON GOAL INSPIRING OUR WORK AND FUELING PASSION.

— ANNUAL TRAINING FORUM PARTICIPANT



Musqueam Knowledge Keeper
Debra Sparrow



(L-R) Keynote Speaker Dr. Danièle Behn Smith, EVA BC's ED Ninu Kang, and Uber Representative Yanique Williams



BE MORE THAN A BYSTANDER

WORKPLACE CULTURE CHANGE

EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES, ONE SCHOOL AND WORKPLACE AT A TIME: CELEBRATING A YEAR OF PROGRESS WITH BE MORE THAN A BYSTANDER

IN OUR COMMUNITIES AND WORKPLACES

We continue to collaborate with various workplaces to create safer environments. This past year, our program expanded to different sectors adding marine and healthcare workers to those we work with in unions, post-secondary institutions, trades, and transportation.

Through our programming, we aim to make workplaces safer for everyone. Our training programs have effectively achieved this goal, helping foster safer, more respectful workplace cultures across a diverse range of industries.

By continually refining and expanding our reach, we strive to make a positive impact both in schools and workplaces, contributing to a safer, more supportive community for all.

Learn more about our program by visiting: endingviolence.org/be-more-than-a-bystander/



IN OUR SCHOOLS

Impact: Our program continues to be successful in reaching high school students, educating over 10,000 students annually in 15 different communities.

New Spokesmen: This year, we trained new BC Lions spokesmen who have joined our growing team to educate youth in schools.

A key component of our program involves inviting local community organizations to introduce themselves and their services. This helps to support youth by connecting them with essential resources locally.

Additionally, we receive tickets from the BC Lions for every regular season home game, which we share with our members, their clients, and community members. Attending these games is often a highlight for our members and provides a wonderful opportunity for their clients and families to enjoy.



EVA BC STATEMENT OF REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES

APRIL 1, 2023 — MARCH 31, 2024

	2024	2023
REVENUES		
Province of British Columbia	\$ 1,694,460	\$ 9,907,303
Federal grants	702,912	608,171
Safer Workplace revenue	693,783	626,526
Other contributions	289,009	443,434
Interest income	114,199	81,164
Donations	36,662	19,631
Membership fees	34,900	18,455
	3,565,925	11,704,684
EXPENDITURES		
Salaries, benefits and purchased services	2,004,885	2,275,997
Sexual assault services	549,796	8,234,796
Public education promotion	182,360	169,014
Travel and accommodation	154,880	116,365
Meetings	141,779	46,594
Rent and site costs	111,657	105,342
Professional fees and bookkeeping	74,877	103,530
Training	71,141	107,988
Telephone and communications	59,030	7,271
Materials and supplies	57,650	57,329
Postage, printing and courier	30,234	29,980
Non-recoverable taxes	21,582	26,542
	3,459,871	11,280,748
EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES	106,054	423,936
TRANSFERS		
Net assets invested in tangible capital assets	(146)	(12,366)
Deficit reduction fund	(105,908)	(411,570)
SURPLUS	\$ —	\$ —

Complete financial reports available on request.