

POWER IN ACTION

ANNUAL REPORT 2025-2026



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.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

HIGHLIGHTS OF OUR YEAR	01
2025-26 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MISSION, VISION AND CORE VALUES	02
LEADERSHIP MESSAGE	03
SERVICES TO STRENGTHEN THE ANTI-VIOLENCE SECTOR	04
OUR 2025 ANNUAL TRAINING FORUM	08
WORKPLACE CULTURE CHANGE	09
EVA BC STATEMENT OF REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES 2025-26	10



HIGHLIGHTS OF OUR YEAR

01

Our STV Counselling Enhancement Project, building the capacity of STV Counsellors and increasing access for underserved communities across BC

See page 05 for the full story.

02

Our team follows the impact and highlights our ongoing advocacy priorities as the province begins to implement changes in response to the Stanton Report

See page 06 for the full story.

03

Our Be More Than a Bystander/Workplace Culture Change program team customizes its gender-based violence training for BC's Environmental Assessment Office (EAO)

See page 09 for the full story.

ANNUAL REPORT

APRIL 1, 2025 TO MARCH 31, 2026

EVA BC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

LYNNELL HALIKOWSKI
REGION 10

North Central
Prince George Sexual Assault
Centre

SAMANTHA LOPPIE
REGION 2

South Vancouver Island
Victoria Sexual Assault Centre

KYLIE SHAW
REGION 3

Lower Mainland
Salal Sexual Violence Support
Centre

NICHOLE OLSEN
REGION 4

Fraser Valley
Cythera Transition House Society

PRISCILLA HEALEY
REGION 6

Okanagan
South Okanagan Women in Need
Society (SOWINS)

KATIE CHAVE
REGION 7

East Kootenay
Summit Community Services

VICTORIA RUNGE
REGION 8

West Kootenay
Boundary Women's Coalition

TARA LEE REA
REGION 9

North West
Islands Wellness Society

SHARI-LYN ROUGEAU
REGION 11

North East
Linda Krystina Housing Society
and Safe House and Outreach
Program

DEANNA SUDNIK
REGION 11 (FLOATING SEAT)

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

- › Accountability
- › Compassion
- › Inclusion
- › Collaboration



LEADERSHIP MESSAGE

Turning Advocacy into Lasting Action

As I reflect on the fiscal year 2025-2026, I am proud to report on the completion of our five-year strategic plan and the creation of a new plan that will guide our work for the years to come. Our planning process confirmed that we are strongly aligned in our vision, mission, and core values. My deep gratitude to our board, staff and partners for staying focused on enhancing supports to those who provide frontline service to survivors of gender-based violence; strengthening our capacity; improving staff wellness; and improving public policy.

Recent reports confirm what our community-based service providers have been saying for years — many survivors of gender-based violence lack the confidence in our systems to keep them safe and get them the support they need to end the violence. [Dr. Kim Stanton's 2025 systemic review of the legal system's treatment of sexual and intimate partner violence](#), the IPV death review panel report, [Our Time to Act: A Review of IPV-Related Deaths in BC, 2016-2024](#), Canada's Ombudsperson for Victims of Crime's systemic investigation report, [Rethinking Justice for Survivors of Sexual Violence](#), along with the 2019 [Reclaiming Power and Place: The Final Report of the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls](#), point to the lack of action to meaningfully address the disproportionate violence perpetrated on Indigenous women, girls and Two-Spirit people; outdated policies across our justice system to meaningfully respond to gender-based violence; and limited funding to support services and GBV coordination efforts.

These findings mirror our organization's advocacy priorities: to revise the [Violence Against Women in Relationship \(VAWIR\) Policy](#), implement a robust ongoing multi-sector IPV death review committee and fund local gender-based violence coordination tables.

At the programming level, our Stopping the Violence (STV) Counselling Enhancement Project successfully bridged critical gaps to reach underserved communities and strengthened the capacity of the province's STVC program to

support them. Simultaneously, we took on work to support BC's post-secondary campuses: Our Workplace Culture Change team prepared a vital campus sexual assault bystander intervention campaign and our Community Coordination for Survivor Safety (CCSS) team worked alongside post-secondary institutions to guide trauma-informed sexual assault investigations.

Re-energized by these milestones, we started the year confident in our understanding of current issues, organizational capacity, and strong relationships with key partners to ensure we use our collective power to create meaningful change in our supports for survivors. I extend my deepest gratitude to our board, staff, donors, and members who keep our vision in sight. Your unwavering commitment ensures that those harmed by gender-based violence receive the support, dignity, and access to justice they deserve. Together, we are not just imagining a safer future — we are building it.

Ninu Kang
Executive Director



SERVICES TO STRENGTHEN THE ANTI-VIOLENCE SECTOR

EVA BC's Provincial Services and Community Coordination for Survivor Safety (CCSS) programs, funded by the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General (MPSSG), provide ongoing support, information, training, and resources to anti-violence workers. We share information, training and funding opportunities, resources, and other updates through *The Frontline* and *ReachOut* newsletters and our website. We also provide

one-on-one email and phone-based support and consultation, and facilitate networking opportunities for the programs and GBV coordination initiatives across BC.

Our program teams are available to debrief, answer questions, and share tools to support anti-violence workers. Learn more about our programs and services by visiting [our website](#).

PROGRAMS PROVIDE FEEDBACK AND IDEAS ON UPDATING THE VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN IN RELATIONSHIPS (VAWIR) POLICY

This year, EVA BC and the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General (MPSSG) Community Safety and Victim Services (CSVs) Division's annual survey canvassed frontline workers, program managers, and leaders in anti-violence programs on their knowledge and familiarity with the current Violence Against Women in Relationships (VAWIR) policy and asked for input on what needs to be updated in the policy, last updated in 2010.

THE SURVEY

EVA BC partnered with MPSSG and the Ministry of Attorney General to canvas programs for their feedback and ideas. The survey received 101 responses, of which more than 75% of anti-violence workers indicated they were at least moderately familiar with the **VAWIR policy**, and almost **80% shared that it is very or extremely relevant to their work in the anti-violence sector**. When asked what was most relevant in the policy, many respondents identified the protocols around coordination of services, the definition of roles and responsibilities and the policy's connection to safety.

Respondents shared the importance of having a revised and **updated version of the VAWIR policy that would clarify policy expectations**. Several respondents indicated that implementing "formal coordination structures such as ICATs or VAWIR

tables, providing clear protocols for information sharing, risk assessment and clarity of roles/responsibilities across sectors would support more consistent collaboration." Other responses included messages of support for the need for funding for ICATs and GBV coordination tables to support collaboration and coordination across sectors to support survivor safety. EVA BC collected and analyzed the data and prepared a written report to share with BC's anti-violence sector and government partners.

HISTORY OF VAWIR

In 1993, the VAWIR policy replaced the original 1986 Wife Assault Policy as a newly named and expanded policy created to ensure an effective, integrated, and coordinated response to intimate partner violence (IPV) in BC, to support survivor safety and offender accountability.

In 2025, Dr. Kim Stanton's systemic review of BC's legal system's treatment of sexual violence and IPV recommended that "the BC government lead a process to update and reinvigorate the VAWIR policy" (Recommendation 9). In the [Stanton Report Fall Update 2025](#), the Ministry of Attorney General committed to a provincial policy framework with an updated VAWIR policy and the first-ever provincial sexual assault policy.

STV COUNSELLING ENHANCEMENT PROJECT UPDATE

Across BC, the STV counselling (STVC) program supports survivors of intimate partner violence, sexual assault, and childhood abuse with individual and group counselling. As part of **Safe and Supported: British Columbia's Gender-Based Violence Action Plan** and through the **National Action Plan to End Gender-Based Violence**, EVA BC received funding to lead the **STV Counselling Enhancement Project (STVCEP)**.

The objective of the STVCEP is to increase access to STVC services for equity-deserving groups and underserved communities, including survivors who are racialized, 2SLGBTQIA+, seniors, newcomers, living with a disability, and/or living in rural and remote communities.

In 2025, EVA BC surveyed STV counsellors across the province to better understand their experiences. A group of 50 counsellors informed us that they face many challenges in their work, including managing long wait times for service, large caseloads, and high staff turnover. We learned that STV counsellors are not representative of the survivors whom they support, with more survivors identifying as members of equity-deserving groups than counsellors. STV counsellors also shared their perspectives on the benefits and drawbacks of delivering STVC virtually. These and other statistics from the survey will be released soon to members as part of a project infographic.

Our STVCEP project advisory committee and partners from organizations that support folks from equity-deserving groups and underserved communities guide the project initiatives.

In March 2026, we distributed over \$290,000 in one-time grants to 85 STVC programs. These grants will fund activities designed to increase access to STVC by enhancing technology, counsellor capacity, outreach, and engagement. Activities funded by the grants are projected to support over 11,000 survivors, 80% of whom are from equity-deserving groups.

What proportion of STV services are delivered virtually?

66% of counsellors report that only up to 25% of their services are delivered virtually, indicating that most services are still in-person.

Up to 25%



26-50%



More than 50%



To further support STV counsellors' professional development, EVA BC is launching three new online training courses that are free for EVA BC members.

STVCEP initiatives already in progress as of March 31, 2026, include **development of a marketing toolkit, a group counselling guide and training, a virtual counselling best practices toolkit, a virtual training symposium, and an updated STVC best practices manual**. We look forward to sharing more about the project next year!



EVA BC'S ADVOCACY STRATEGY

This year, EVA BC continued to be a strong advocate for provincial funding for the anti-violence sector to lead GBV coordination tables across BC with stable core funding for anti-violence organizations to strengthen their capacity to support survivors, prevent GBV and create safer communities.

We amplified Dr. Kim Stanton's 2025 systemic review of the legal system's treatment of sexual and intimate partner violence and her recommendations to improve systemic responses for survivors including:

- Advocating for a continuing intimate partner violence death review committee;
- Building the case to fund and strengthen GBV coordination initiatives such as VAWIR/VIR/SA committees, and Interagency Case Assessment Teams (ICATs).
- Working closely with the Ministry of Attorney General and Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General (MPSSG) to inform the update of the 2010 Violence Against Women in Relationships (VAWIR) policy (*see page 04*).
- Taking an active role in the provincial Reference Group of Anti-Violence Sector Leadership to support the implementation of Dr. Stanton's recommendations.

Ongoing collaboration with the Ministry of Attorney General (AG), Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General (MPSSG), Gender Equity Office (GEO), Ministry of Children and Family Development (MCFD), and the Office of the Representative for Children and Youth (RCY) and emphasizing the importance of the anti-violence sector's work and Dr. Stanton's recommendations to the office of the AG, MPSSG, PS for Gender Equity and the Premier.

Participated in an IPV death review panel in September 2025 and continue to advocate for the creation of an ongoing IPV death review committee — also recommended by the panel — and for concrete actions to implement systemic changes to prevent future intimate partner violence homicides.

REACHOUT NEWSLETTER

ReachOut is EVA BC's provincial newsletter for the anti-violence sector, community and system partners and others who support our work. With 1,000+ subscribers, the newsletter raises awareness of GBV issues and highlights the work of EVA BC and the anti-violence sector. [Subscribe here.](#)

Every issue of *ReachOut* begins with stories on the Calls to Action and the Calls for Justice to end the ongoing systemic violence against, and disappearance and murder of Indigenous women, girls, and 2SLGBTQIA+ people.

This year, EVA BC published three issues of *ReachOut* with in-depth stories, including:

- Gender-based violence coordination initiatives in BC including the [Regional Domestic Violence Unit \(RDVU\) in Saanich](#) and the [Sea-to-Sky Sexual Assault Response Committee in Squamish](#).
- [Stories on the Calls to Action and Calls for Justice](#) including BC's first Indigenous Diversion Centre, the impact of Indian Hospitals on Indigenous women's health, and our ethical and shared responsibility to confront residential school denialism.
- [BC SPCA's Safekeeper Program](#) to provide safe homes for IPV survivors' pets.
- [Good Night Out's proactive approach to preventing sexual violence](#) in the hospitality, music, arts and nightlife sector.
- [Bill C-16's proposed legislative reform](#) to protect survivors of gender-based violence.
- [Rethinking Justice](#): the Office of the Federal Ombudsperson for Victims of Crime's (OFOVC's) systemic investigation findings on the experiences of survivors of sexual assault within the Canadian criminal justice system.

YUKON HIGH-RISK IPV PROJECT

The Yukon Government reached out to EVA BC with interest in developing their own IPV coordination model similar to the Interagency Case Assessment Teams (ICATs) for the Yukon. They hired the CCSS team as a consultant to support the Yukon government in the development of their process, including their manual and training. In March 2026, [CCSS travelled to the Yukon](#) for the training and the launch of the Yukon's Coordinated Process for High-Risk Intimate Partner Violence.

ICATS AND SITUATION TABLES REFERRAL PROJECT

An Interagency Case Assessment Team (ICAT) is a formalized group of anti-violence workers, police, MCFD representatives, Indigenous Child and Family Service Agencies (ICFSAs), probation/corrections, and others who work together to respond to “highest risk cases of intimate partner violence” where there is a likely risk of “serious bodily harm or death,” and provide coordinated risk management with a priority of enhancing survivor safety.

Last year, the Community Coordination for Survivor Safety (CCSS) team received funding from the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General (MPSSG) to develop an ICAT Referral Protocol for situation tables across the province. CCSS will also develop education to support the implementation of the ICAT Referral Protocol for situation tables.

Situation tables are a structured, collaborative model that brings together a wide range of community agencies and service providers that focus on community safety. They identify vulnerable, at-risk individuals and connect them to services and supports. **There are 40 situation tables and more than 50 ICATs in the province.**

The goal of the ICAT Referral Protocol is to provide situation tables with guidance and a clear process for referring high risk intimate partner violence cases to their local ICAT in those communities where there is both a situation table and an ICAT.

CCSS plans to finalize the ICAT Referral Protocol and deliver education to situation tables across the province this fall.



COMMUNITY COORDINATION TRAINING ACROSS THE PROVINCE

This year, the Community Coordination for Survivor Safety (CCSS) team held in-person training sessions to support coordination initiatives across the province in **Castlegar, Chilliwack, Cranbrook, Hazelton, Robson Valley, Surrey, and Vernon.**

CCSS also held one virtual province-wide training session on Interagency Case Assessment Teams (ICATs). The CCSS team also provided virtual support and assistance to many communities across the province.

PROVINCIAL WORKING GROUP

On March 12, 2026, the CCSS Provincial Working Group held a meeting that focused on:

- The recommendations from Dr. Kim Stanton’s independent review.
- Consent law and sexual violence.
- Drug-facilitated sexual assault.
- Survivor access to forensic sample collection in rural and remote areas.

- Gender-based violence coordination in BC.
- BC First Nations Justice Council Indigenous Women’s Justice Plan.

The **CCSS Provincial Working Group meets biannually** and brings together senior levels of government, policing, and provincial community-based organizations to discuss and develop solutions to systemic gender-based violence issues.

OUR 2025 ANNUAL TRAINING FORUM

EVA BC's 2025 Annual Training Forum (ATF) was held on September 25 and 26, at the Sheraton Vancouver Wall Centre and brought together over 340 members, partners and other guests from across the province for our biggest gathering since the pandemic

The theme of this year's ATF was ***Standing Strong: Support through Prevention, Intervention and Advocacy***. Just some of the highlights of the ATF included a welcome address from Musqueam Elder, Gail Sparrow; two keynote speakers: author, entrepreneur, and founder of Naqsmist Storytellers Inc., Elaine Alec, who shared her keynote via video, and American educator, author, and leading scholar-activist in the global movement of men promoting gender equity and preventing gender-based violence, Dr. Jackson Katz. You can watch both keynotes on [EVA BC's YouTube channel](#).

In addition to an informal evening networking reception, new this year were facilitated networking sessions grouped by program, as well as one for those in leadership positions and a general open networking session. Participants reported gaining insights, fresh ideas on organizational approaches, plus making exciting new connections.

The Indigenous Women Rise Society Drum Group closed the two days with a rousing performance of drumming and singing of songs from across Turtle Island.

“

I HAVE GREAT APPRECIATION FOR THE QUALITY OF YOUR CONFERENCES AND I'M GRATEFUL TO BE PART OF THE WORK WE DO KNOWING THAT EVA [BC] IS ALWAYS SUPPORTING US!

— ANNUAL TRAINING FORUM PARTICIPANT



BE MORE THAN A BYSTANDER

EVA BC AND THE BC LIONS CELEBRATE BE MORE THAN A BYSTANDER WITH JACKSON KATZ AND OTHER CHAMPIONS

In September 2025, EVA BC co-hosted a reception with our long-time partner, the BC Lions, that brought together champions who have worked to make changes in their workplaces and communities. The reception was an opportunity to celebrate our work – in high schools, workplaces and other communities – to show participants how to have the confidence and skills to “Be More Than a Bystander.”

We were joined by the key architect of the “bystander” approach to gender-based violence, Dr. Jackson Katz, whose continuing work on engaging men and championing gender equity carries simple timeless messages.

Katz said, “We’re not anywhere near where our societies need to be, but the work that EVA BC and the BC Lions have been doing is exceptional to create change. These kinds of partnerships are possible, and everybody benefits.”

EVA BC’s executive director, Ninu Kang, said, “Since EVA BC started to do this work, we have had nothing but an incredible relationship with the BC Lions. Every time we have something new, you step up and are there for us.”

BC Lions’ Senior Vice President, Business, George Chayka said, “Our BC More Than a Bystander program is a proactive measure for helping to end gender violence and it takes our strong partnership and team commitment to make it happen.”



GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE (GBV) TRAINING FOR BC’S ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT OFFICE (EAO)

This year, our Workplace Culture Change team developed and delivered a 15-session [GBV Awareness Training program](#) for BC’s Environmental Assessment Office (EAO).

The EAO oversees the promotion of sustainability, protection of the environment, and supporting communities and Indigenous reconciliation in the context of development projects across BC.

As part of [British Columbia’s Gender-Based Violence Action Plan](#), the EAO committed to providing GBV awareness training for all its staff. The training builds skills to assess and monitor GBV risks linked to temporary accommodations, work camps, and other project-related activities, and to integrate effective prevention and mitigation measures.

The participants explored how GBV risk intersects with power, colonialism, and systemic inequality, and how to translate identified risks into effective, enforceable mitigation measures.



OUR GOAL IS TO PREVENT AND ADDRESS GBV — BUT WORKING WITH THE EAO, WHO DRIVE CHANGE AT A SYSTEMS AND POLICY LEVEL, CREATES REAL POTENTIAL FOR LASTING IMPACT ACROSS THE RESOURCE SECTOR.

— ASHLEY HUMPHRYS, MANAGER OF SOCIAL ENTERPRISE AT EVA BC

EVA BC STATEMENT OF REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES

APRIL 1, 2025 — MARCH 31, 2026

	2026	2025
REVENUES		
Province of British Columbia	\$ 2,693,887	\$ 2,110,785
Other contributions	433,239	497,810
Safer Workplace revenue	369,875	308,191
Interest income	146,260	116,926
Donations	21,838	40,383
Membership fees	18,608	43,225
Federal grants	-	41,597
	3,683,707	3,158,917
EXPENDITURES		
Salaries, benefits and purchased services	2,616,443	2,114,073
Public education promotion	219,795	189,461
Travel and accommodation	160,106	170,527
Meetings	152,276	160,524
Telephone and communications	147,269	142,245
Rent and site costs	140,239	128,424
Professional fees and bookkeeping	87,764	76,055
Materials and supplies	81,213	79,700
Non-recoverable taxes	24,481	23,991
Postage, printing and courier	22,597	41,105
Sexual assault services	15,000	400,000
Training	8,961	5,500
	3,676,144	3,531,605
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES	7,563	(372,688)
TRANSFERS		
Net assets invested in tangible capital assets	(12,481)	6,113
Deficit reduction fund	4,918	366,575
DEFICIT	\$ —	\$ —

Complete financial reports available on request.