

CHILLIWACK RESTORATIVE JUSTICE

Repairing Harm.
Preventing Crime.



2021-2022 ANNUAL REPORT

We engage with the community to repair and prevent harm and conflict through restorative circles and interactive teaching.

Table of Contents

Chilliwack Restorative Justice and Youth Advocacy Association

Board of Directors	3
From the Board Chair	5
From the Executive Director	6
From the Executive Director (cont...)	6
Restorative Response	7
Finance Report	8
Thank You!	11

Board of Directors

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

JIM SIMMILL - BOARD CHAIR
JARED MUMFORD - BOARD VICE CHAIR
SHERRY MUMFORD - SECRETARY
KATHY VANDERLEE - TREASURER

DIRECTORS

EDNA WARICK
BRIAN GOLDSTONE
MIKE STRAITON

EX OFFICIO

CORPORAL MARTIN GODARD, RCMP
DARLENE WAHLSTROM, VICTIM SERVICES

From the Board Chair

It is my distinguished pleasure as Chair of the Board of Directors to say a few words reflecting on our organization for the 2021 – 2022 year. Chilliwack Restorative Justice has successfully operated in the Chilliwack and neighbouring communities for over 20 years. We continue to provide relevant and timely restorative services to the communities of Chilliwack, Hope, Boston Bar and Agassiz.

As a pragmatic organization, we were able to meet the challenges presented to us with Covid by adopting our process, in both with providing services to our clients and embracing technology for our board meetings. We are hopeful that Covid is under control and that we can continue to provide our valuable services to our communities we serve. I want to thank the dedicated volunteers and board members for their commitment and continued enthusiasm during these challenging times.

Our staff is to also be commended for their professionalism and commitment over this past year where our Executive Director, Steve Roukema, has brought his vision and enthusiasm forward and has been instrumental in streamlining several of our processes through technology, such as our new Donor Perfect program and introducing Google Chat for volunteers and board members. Rose Yan must be commended for her stellar dedication and her focus on organizing our Victim Offender Conferences and Community Accountability Panels, working on the bike auctions and all the other operational tasks that she does in the background. We have two new employees, Danielle Otermat our coordinator for the School Restorative Response program and Lisa Sperling our coordinator for Community Response who will be responsible for Operation Red Nose this year. Welcome to our organization!

We have continued to have our web-based bike auction and have raised over \$5,600!

We have been busy this past year! Our office conducted 23 Community Accountability Panel facilitations and 26 Victim Offender Conferences. We are pleased that the Department of Fisheries and Oceans have become a partner in our facilitation, and we continue to receive referrals from the RCMP, School District 33 and our retail partners.

We currently have a total of 25 dedicated volunteers, and we are developing a training curriculum to allow us to train our facilitators for Victim Offender Conferencing using our own resources. Well done! I want to thank our volunteers, including my fellow board members for the countless hours they have provided to ensure our community receives the best service we can provide. I want to thank Stuart Reece and Peter Lang for their valuable contributions while serving on the board of directors.

It has been my honour to work on the Board for the past year and although I will no longer be on the board, I look forward to working with all of you on various committees and client facilitations.

Sincerely,
Jim Simmill, Chair
Chilliwack Restorative Justice

From the Executive Director

NEW BEGINNINGS

Providing someone with the opportunity to reset their lives is an amazing opportunity! It has been a great pleasure and privilege to work and learn from volunteers and staff over the past 10 months. The last fiscal year that ended April, 2022, proved to be an exciting and rewarding time for many. When I took this role in November of 2021, the board and staff were determined to make restorative justice a larger impact in Chilliwack. As COVID-19 restrictions lessened and the ability to meet in person became more of a reality, we went to work to provide safe alternatives for those involved in crime and conflict.

STRATEGIC PLANNING

In December the board was presented with a planning timeline to implement a **3-year strategic plan**. Over the next few months, the board completed a SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats) analysis to identify long term goals and objectives. Thank you to Rose and select volunteers who also completed a questionnaire to help in the process. The timeline for the board requires: starting with a 1-year plan; reviewing/editing in November 2022; creating a 3-year plan to be complete by March 2023. As a result, CRJ will have a continual 3-year strategic plan as of the 2023-2024 fiscal year and into the future. The 1-year strategic plan for 2022-2023 fiscal year is available to you upon request.

SCHOOL RESTORATIVE RESPONSE

Conversations with the School District of Chilliwack (SD33) to create a restorative culture with teachers, CYCW, counsellors, and students allowed for a **School Restorative Response program** to be developed. With an agreement from Community Justice Initiatives, funding from a received grant of \$40,000.00 from Civil Forfeiture, we were able to secure a long-term partnership with SD33. The partnership and agreement will enable CRJ to teach restorative values in the classrooms and support them with restorative circles when conflicts arise as of September 2022.

FUNDING

Grants and funding from the City, Gaming, and CAP (Provincial) continue with the Lohn Foundation (\$3,000.00) and Southern Irrigation (\$500) providing additional funding. Individual donors have also increased over the fiscal year of 2021-22. Thank you to all our donors! Our Bike Auction continues to bring in revenue through monthly online auctions. Thank you Jeff and Christopher, for fixing up the bikes and uploading them to the site! After the approval for CRJ to host Operation Red Nose by the board, we are excited to see results of the community awareness and revenue it will provide in 2022.

From the Executive Director (cont...)

CRM

Research for CRM (**Customer Relationship Management**) began last spring to allow for more effective communication and reporting on finances, receipting, clients, and volunteer management. Training for the CRM, DonorPerfect, began near the end of the fiscal year for Rose and me to allow us to begin using the program for the fiscal year of 2022-2023.

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

The **Policy and Procedures** Committee took aggressive steps to complete what was started a few years ago. Along with Rose and Edna, we were able to complete the Operations Manual. Work has now begun on the Administration Manual with the support of Sherry. Thank you for your diligent and meticulous efforts to complete a necessary and valuable resource for CRJ!

COMMUNITY AWARENESS

Our **community awareness** continues to grow through valuable relationships with the RCMP, Chilliwack Healthier Communities, Restorative Justice Coordinators of BC, community members of Chilliwack, and businesses. The city is gaining a renewed and deeper understanding of how restorative justice can be a part of their life. As our presence on our social media platforms (Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and LinkedIn) increases, so too does the quality of our website. Through DonorPerfect's contact information gathering, we are able to update all donors, volunteers, and supporters through regular emails that connect them to our website.

DONORS AND SUPPORTERS

Thank you, Board Members, for your diligence and commitment to greatness. Thank you as well to all our donors and supporters. Without you we would not be able to pursue our mission of restorative impact and opportunities in the Upper Fraser Valley to create safer communities and connection for all involved.



Steve Roukema
Executive Director

Restorative Response

STRENGTHENING OUR STRENGTHS

Rose, our Restorative Response Coordinator for the past 4 years, has persevered through many staff and leadership transitions, and COVID-19 restrictions and continues to demonstrate a willingness to implement new strategies to receive more referrals to create opportunities for those involved in crime. With trained community members she can provide alternatives to the court system through restorative circles.

RESTORATIVE JUSTICE REFERRALS

With 25 trained volunteers, the Restorative Response program has completed 57 referrals received from the RCMP, Loss Prevention Officers (LPO) and Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) in the past fiscal year (see table on following page). This is a slight increase from the previous year that completed 51 referrals. In our attempts to increase referrals with the RCMP, we have worked closely with Cpl. Godard to simplify the referral process for Police Officers. Our in-person presentations to about 100 Officers provided an opportunity for CRJ to be illustrated and questions to be answered.

MEETING PLACES

After meeting most of the volunteers in person, we took a new approach to communication with Google Spaces to allow all involved in a panel to be informed of the updates. New in person meeting places have allowed our restorative circles to create dialogue in a comfortable and private setting to create an environment of safety. Thank you: Griffin Security; Mainstreet church; Central Community Church; Royal Hotel; and Cornerstone Christian Reformed Church.

VOLUNTEER TRAINING

Six volunteers took the VOC (Victim Offender Conference) training via Zoom through *Roots*. With 8 trained VOC facilitators and 17 volunteers to support them, we began Volunteer Role Play nights lead by Mike Straiton. Looking ahead, we plan to improve the volunteer training framework to include an Orientation and 6 monthly training sessions that can be repeated on an annual basis.

Thank you to our Restorative Justice Circle Volunteers:

Taylor Allenby
Josh Becker
Ashley Chester
Mikayla Duval
Jackie Felker
Ken Gaglardi
Stacey Hobson
Stacey Hagkull
Jon Hoogerdyk

Sydney Hutt
Jeryl Merryweather
Erza Mjekiqi
Karen Ng
Ashley Nicol
Bridgette Okeymow
Rylee Pryor
Amanda Semke
Jim Simmill

Michael Straiton
Brennan Stulp
Edna Warick
Sherry Mumford

Finance Report

Income

Grants	\$86,069.00
Donations	\$15,762.00
Fundraising (Bike Sales)	\$5,607.00
Other	\$187.00
TOTAL	\$107,625.00

Expenses:

Salaries/Benefits	\$94,419.00
Administration	\$21,638.00
Professional Fees	\$6,794.00
Training	\$5,406.00
TOTAL	\$128,257.00
Net Loss	(\$20,632.00)

FINANCES

Fiscal year 2021-22 saw an increase of income. Though the statements (p. 3 of the Review Engagement) may not demonstrate the increase, our records from the previous 2 years allow us to see how the Gaming Grant funds of \$39,000.00 was not received in the Fiscal year of 2020 due to insufficient reporting to the Gaming organization. November of 2021, the reporting was remedied, and the funds were received in the fiscal year of 2021, along with expected Gaming funds of \$39,000.00. The result was receiving the Gaming Grant twice in 2021, and once in 2022.

We saw an increase in donations and fundraising through the Bike Auction that went to an online platform. Our community awareness through the updated website and social media presence in recent months will promote more funding to raise funds for increased restorative impact in the community.

Our leadership team has strategically planned for growth in resources and staff when the necessary funds become available. The current fund development strategy includes the following:

- Hire a Part Time Restorative Community Coordinator and Full Time Restorative Response and School Coordinators
- Prepare and host volunteer training sessions
- Expand our fundraising initiatives to increase individual donations and new grants.

Thank you to everyone who supported our organization in the past year. We are grateful to partner with you, our generous donors, and supporters as we engage in the community to repair and prevent harm and conflict.

Thank You!

We want to express our sincerest gratitude to our generous donors, volunteers, community and supporters. Our restorative impact is possible with your compassion and generosity.

We also want to thank the City of Chilliwack, Province of British Columbia, Civil Forfeiture, Lohn Foundation, and Community Gaming for believing in our organization.



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