
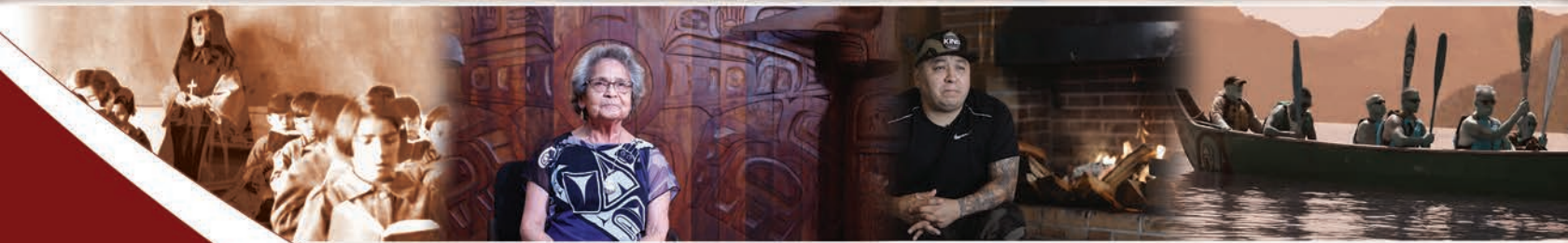


[www.coels.ca](http://www.coels.ca)

 /circleofeagleslodge

# Circle of Eagles Lodge Society



## Annual Report 2021-2022


Annual General Meeting

Online Via Zoom

June 23, 2022

5:00 PM





**In loving memory of all those who lost their lives in  
Residential Schools, Foster Care, and prisons.**



## Circle of Eagles Lodge Society 2021-2022 Board of Directors

Darryl Gray	President
Rick Lavallee	Vice President
Margaret Joseph	Treasurer
Rob O'Dea	Secretary
Lucy Wallace	Board Member
Fay Nelson	Board Member
Garry Jobin	Board Member
Namaste Marsden	Board Member
Ruby Ann Harry	Board Member
Cheryl Simpkin	Board Member
Jason Watt	Board Member

## 2021 – 2022 Staff List

### Administration

Merv Thomas	Chief Executive Officer
Barb Ellis	Director of Operations
Laverne Snow	Finance
Isabella Au	Finance
Samantha Chow	Admin Finance

### Circle of Eagles Resource Team

Barb Ellis	Circle of Healing
Sarah Thomas	Housing Manager
Jennifer Cupello	Circle of Healing Outreach
Jenelle Palfreyman	Pre-Employment Program
Crystal Roy	Housing and Support
Rob Bain	Peer and Housing Support
Amanda M	Trading Post Store Manager
Henry Peters	Cook / Housing Support
Chona Ureta	Bannock on the Run Coordinator
Laurie Ahdemar	Alcohol & Drug Counselor
Jason Lawrence	Admin / COVID Coordinator

### Elders

John Delorme  
Mary Louie

## Naa-na-himiyis Brothers Healing Lodge

Danette Delorme	House Manager
Craig Snow	Admin Assistant
Ellen Stewart	House Support
Art Lai	House Support
Austin Lee	House Support
Tanis Berrios	House Support
Far Sebastian	House Support
Edward Maxwell	House Support
Sharon MacAlpine	House Support
Kelsey Pootlass	House Support

## Anderson Lodge Healing Centre for Women

Velma Albert	House Manager
Ida Joe	Admin Assistant
Chona Ureta	House Support
Mavis Williams	House Support
Lisa Snow-White	House Support
Ellen Stewart	House Support
Andrea Peters	House Support
Stacy Pascal	House Support
Shaunee Jack	House Support
Rose Marie Francis	House Support

## Circle of Eagles Trading Post

Amanda McGee	Supervisor
Stewart Anderson	Consultant

## Circle of Eagles Graphic Design

Greg Pierre

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## Circle of Eagles Lodge Society



### Head Office Administration

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Vancouver B.C. V6N 2C7  
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Fax: 604-874-3858

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1470 East Broadway  
Vancouver B.C. V5N 1V6  
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Fax: 604-874-3858

### Anderson Lodge Healing Centre for Women

2716 Clark Drive  
Vancouver B.C. V5N 3H6  
Tel: 604-874-1246  
Fax: 604-874-9464

### COELS Resource Center

2008 Wall Street  
Vancouver B.C. V5L 1J5  
Tel: 778-658-5760  
Fax: 604-874-3858

### Circle of Eagles Trading Post

2008 Wall Street  
Vancouver B.C. V5L 1J5  
Tel: 778-658-5999  
Fax: 604-874-3858

### Circle of Eagles Graphic Design

2008 Wall Street  
Vancouver B.C. V5L 1J5  
Tel: 778-658-5999  
Fax: 604-874-3858

# Chief Executive Officer Report

By Merv Thomas, CEO

Tansi, I would like to begin by acknowledging the traditional territory of the Coast Salish People. We are grateful to be allowed to live, work, and play in these beautiful lands.

I would like to also thank and acknowledge the Board of Directors for their leadership, dedication, and compassion and for giving up their time to volunteer to guide and oversee the governance of COELS. The Board has had a busy year and have updated the COELS Strategic Plan. It is attached in this report. We hope that the membership, partners, and stakeholders will read as COELS begins to expand its work towards a national level.

Special thanks and appreciation to the Managers of COELS, Barb Ellis, Velma Albert, Danette Delorme, Laverne Snow, and Sarah Thomas for their ongoing commitment to making meaningful contributions and providing leadership to carry out the programs and services for the Brothers and Sisters for whom we work, as well as the community who are experiencing homelessness.

Of course, all this support could not be accomplished without the work of the many Elders and staff of COELS, for their compassion, dedication, and resilience in adapting to the many changes that we have experienced in the past and especially now as we are all moving beyond the pandemic. Many of the staff have been with the organization for 20 years and more, and they were honored with an award at the COELS 50th, 52nd Anniversary Gala, which was held on May 27, 2022, of this year.

We also want to acknowledge and thank the Brothers and Sisters for their continuing patience and understanding this past year. We are very proud of all your accomplishments and achievements as we have seen more Brothers and Sisters leaving our homes and services in a good way and going to their own homes to their families. We have seen Brothers and Sisters access cultural programs and services provided by COELS. And we hope for the best for all your futures.

This past year we have experienced major outbreaks of COVID within the COELS family. We have seen that those who had their vaccines and booster shots did not get as sick as those who were either vaccinated or had their boosters. So, it is still important to continue to keep ourselves and others safe by practicing social distancing, staying home when sick and most importantly keeping up to date with the vaccines and booster shots. We had a Getting Vaccinated communications campaign, and we were able to get almost 93% of the COELS family vaccinated! We also promoted the campaign online to mixed reviews. There was a lot of push back with many Indigenous people still having lack of trust in government and others that are promoting ways on keeping oneself safe.

This year, COELS was finally able to celebrate our 50th Anniversary Gala, albeit two years later. The event was held at the York Theatre on May 27, 2022. As part of the celebration, COELS produced a documentary called ***“Circle of Eagles – Soaring for 50 years!”*** and it has been very well received by the international community and the film festival circuit. It has won numerous awards and was selected at many festivals. It will be officially released this fall.



COELS has achieved a lot this past year and some of the highlights include:

- Naa-na-himiyis Brothers Healing Lodge and Anderson Sisters Healing Lodge continue to provide a home for the Brothers and Sisters.
- Tsetsusem Canoe Healing Journey – were cancelled this past year and we are looking forward to probably having one this fall of 2022.
- COELS Pre-employment Program and Training continues to provide services and assist the Brothers and Sisters to becoming employed.
- Circle of Healing continues to meet with the Brothers where they are at and assist them to achieving their goals and plans
- Elders continue to provide ongoing support to the Brothers and Sisters via online and telephone.
- Circle of Eagles Trading Post will be celebrating its first year anniversary and continues to sell arts and crafts created by the Brothers and Sisters and is accessible in the store and online at [www.circleofeaglestradingpost.ca](http://www.circleofeaglestradingpost.ca)
- Section 84 – special acknowledgment to Amanda Fehr, your commitment and compassion for the Brothers is extremely admirable. Thank you for all your work!
- Cultural programs including John Delorme overseeing the Sweat Lodge, thank you to all the cultural workers for all your help and support for the Brothers and Sisters through this most difficult time this past year.

In closing, none of this would be possible without the ongoing support from our partners and funders.

We want to thank the Correctional Services Canada for our ongoing partnership, special thanks to Dennis Herfst and Zureen Kahn this past year, thank you to Lu'ma Native Housing Monica Day, to Metro Vancouver and Vancity – thank you to Julie Cheng, Aboriginal Community Career Employment Services Society, Lynn White and her incredible staff, Aboriginal Mother Centre for their space in their building, Metro Vancouver Aboriginal Executive Council, and Metro Vancouver Indigenous Services Society, Greater Vancouver Food Bank, and many others.

Last but certainly not least, I would like to acknowledge the membership for your ongoing support for the Circle of Eagles Lodge Society.

This concludes my report.

In respect,  
Merv

# Circle of Eagles Lodge Society

## Annual General Meeting

June 23, 2022 at 5:00 pm  
via Zoom



## Agenda

### Opening Prayer

1. Registration
2. Meeting called to order
3. Election for Chair
4. Minutes of 51st AGM
5. President's Report
6. Chief Executive Officers Report
7. Audited Report 2021-2022 Fiscal Year
8. Appointment of Auditors
9. Staff Reports:
  - a. Circle of Eagles Resources Report
  - b. Naa-na-himysis Brothers Healing Lodge Report
  - c. Anderson Sisters Healing Lodge Report
10. Nominations for Board of Directors
11. Honoring Ceremony
  - a. Edith Anderson Awards
  - b. Presentations and Awards
12. Adjournment

### Elder

Darryl Gray

Merv Thomas

MNP Auditors

Barb Ellis

Danette Delorme

Velma Albert

# 51st COELS Annual General Meeting Minutes

Circle of Eagles Lodge Society  
51st Annual General Meeting Minutes  
June 9, 2021

**Opening Prayer** – Chief Robert Joseph

Nominations for Chair were presented.

**Motion #1** - That Marge White accepts the nomination for Chair.

M/S/C- Shelley Joseph/Lucy Wallace/Carried

Marge White officially calls to order the 51st Annual General Meeting of the Circle of Eagles Lodge Society at 5:57 p.m.

**Motion #2** - That the 2020 AGM minutes are accepted as presented.

M/S/C – Fay Nelson/Shelley Joseph/Carried

**President's Report**  
- Presented by Shelley Joseph

**Motion #3** - That we accept the President of the Circle of Eagles Lodge Society's Report.

M/S/C – Lucy Wallace /Rick Lavallee/Carried

Chief Executive Officer - Presented by Merv Thomas

**Motion #4** - That we accept the Executive Director's Report.

M/S/C – Daryl Gray/Maggie Joseph/Carried

**Audit Report** - Presented by Dave Mitchell

KNV Chartered Accountants presented the audit report for the fiscal year April 31, 2020 – March 31, 2021.

**Motion #5** - That we accept the Audit Report by KNV Chartered Accountants report for the fiscal year April 31, 2020 - March 31, 2021.

M/S/C –Daryl Gray/Rick Lavallee /Carried

**Motion #6** - That the Board re-appoints KNV Chartered Accountants for our next fiscal year 2021 - 2022.

M/S/C – Lucy Wallace/Fay Nelson /Carried

Programs Report - Presented by Barb Ellis

**Motion #7** - That we accept the Programs Report.

M/S/C – Rob O'Dea/Rose McDonald/  
Carried

**Naa-Na-Himyis Report**  
- Presented by Danette Delorme

**Motion #8** - That we accept NNH House Manager's Report.

M/S/C – Rick Lavallee /Maggie Joseph/  
Carried

**Anderson Lodge Report**  
- Presented by Velma Albert

**Motion #9** - That we accept Anderson Lodge House Manager's Report.

M/S/C – Daryl Gray/Lucy Wallace/Carried

**Nominations for Board of Directors**

Four positions open for nomination. A slate was presented for the Board of Directors for the 2020 – 2021 fiscal year.

**Motion #10** - That the slate presented with the following Board Members, Shelley Joseph, Daryl Gray, Daryl Ghostkeeper and Rick Lavallee are renominated and Fay Nelson, Lucy Wallace, Maggie Joseph, Rob O'Dea, and Garry Jobin continue their role on the Board of Directors.

M/S/C – Rick Lavallee /Shelley Joseph/  
Carried

**Edith Anderson Awards were presented.**  
- Justina Ellis and Amanda McGee from Anderson Lodge  
- Jerry Hanmore and Donald Chad from Naa-Na-Himyis

**Meeting Adjourned at 7:25 p.m.**



## Naa-na-himiyis Brothers Healing Lodge Annual Report

By Danette Delorme, House Manager

Good evening, Board of Directors, Staff and Guests, this is my report for the 2021 to 2022 fiscal year. We are a Community Residential Facility for Indigenous men that are being released from the Institutions through Canada. We accept Indigenous and non-Indigenous men that are following the Indigenous Traditional Healing path.

The following is a brief breakdown for Naa-na-himiyis.

### 1. Naa-na-himiyis statistical breakdown

- COELS overall was at 97% capacity in 2021. There was a total of 6028 bed days out of a potential of 6205 bed days an increase over the last fiscal year.
- Overall, through the year, there were 6 UALS and 18 suspensions, an increase of 3 UALS, and one suspension from previous year. For a total of 24 suspensions and UALS.
- There were two transfers to treatment, 3 reached stat release, 3 reached full parole and 2 reached their Warrant Expiry. For a total of 10 positive exits.

2. In terms of high risk, please note. High risk brothers are those who have the following designations: LTSO, LTSO SR/WR and Tandem, SR/WR, Tandem Brothers. The following is a brief breakdown of each. Please note that in the case that a brother has both an LTSO/SRWR and Tandem, they are only counted once.

HIGH RISK						Total Brothers/	
LTSO/WR	LTSO/SR/WR	FPWR	SR/WR	Tandem	Total HR	month	HR %
1	2		3	7	13	20	65%
2	1			8	11	18	61%
1	1		3	7	12	18	67%
1	3		3	8	15	19	79%
2	4		5	8	19	20	95%
2	6		4	4	16	19	84%
1	5		2	5	13	16	81%
1	7		2	5	15	17	88%
2	7		3	3	15	20	75%
2	6		3	5	16	18	89%
1	10		2	6	19	22	86%
1	7		5	4	17	20	85%
<b>17</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>181</b>	<b>227</b>	<b>0.7974</b>
7%	26%		15%	31%	80%		

There was a total of 79.74% overall rate of high-risk brothers in the facility. The brothers came with multiple high-risk needs, including dealing with various issues, addictions, extreme trauma through their experiences with residential schools and dealing with systemic racism, many were dealing with other mental health issues, including often undiagnosed FASD, ADHD and with COVID other mental health related issues.

Drug use continues to be a major concern for COELS, that continues to maintain zero tolerance towards alcohol and drugs and even if there are suspicions to alcohol and drugs COELS maintains the right to withdraw services. They continue to breach their conditions and suspensions, a majority of which is for drug use. The current drugs that

are being used are Crystal Meth and fentanyl, which in Vancouver is often poisoned. This has caused major concern for COELS Admin, especially during a pandemic.

COELS has and will continue to accept Brothers who have greater success in an Indigenous based facility. It must be noted that our facility is rooted in Indigenous culture, based on mutual respect, cultural protocols, ceremonies and cultural safety. It is the strong belief of COELS that respect is mutually beneficial, and this has increased the level of trust from the Indigenous Brothers to strive to reintegrate in a good way into the community.

As noted above, almost 80% that arrived into the COELS facility were labelled as DO's, LTSOs, were tandem, and/or SR/Rs. COELS also continues to support the Brothers and will accept them back when they breach their conditions by working with them from a cultural perspective (healing circles, working with elders, being involved in Circle of Healing).

The chart below shows the bed utilization from April 2020 to March 2021. There was a total of 6001 bed days during this reporting period and we continue to have a waitlist.

- We had seven brothers that went unlawfully at large, and twenty-one were suspended.
- Three Brothers were granted Full Parole, and one brother left on his warrant expiry date.
- One brother transferred to a treatment centre in Nanaimo.

Month	UAL	Suspension	WED/Full Parole/SR	Other	Beds
Apr 2021	0	2	1		504
May 2021	0	1	2		521
Jun 2021	1	2			496
Jul 2021	1	1			478
Aug 2021	0	0			527
Sep 2021	2	1			495
Oct 2021	0	1			521
Nov 2021	2	4	1		486
Dec 2021	0	3			518
Jan 2022	0	5		1	470
Feb 2022	1	0			464
Mar 2022	0	1			521
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>6001</b>

This fiscal year we continued to follow the Covid 19 safety protocols, taking all the precautions in our day-to-day operations.

CCIB – Community Correctional Intervention Board Meetings are held on Wednesday afternoons, and we continue to meet through Teams and not in person. This is where we review file information and discuss the brothers that are soon to be released.

I have not been able to attend the institutions in the lower mainland due to the Covid19 pandemic. I do receive phone calls and letters from the brothers inside, this continues to be my main connection with them again this year.

Community Resource Expo – The staff and I usually attend the Expo Fairs in the Spring and in the Fall, hopefully we able to do this again soon. We attend all the Institutions in the lower mainland, and we meet with a lot of Brothers during that week and speak to them about the programs and services we have to offer.

Culture – The Sweat Lodge ceremonies started back up in April 2021 and are now being held on Saturdays, we also have Elders that the brothers are encouraged to meet with to continue with their healing journey.

Camp Potlatch – We are looking forward to when the brothers can attend the camp again, they are usually held in the Spring and in the Fall and they help the brothers in their healing journey. They stay for three nights and four days, they participate in the sweat lodges, healing circles, workshops and go out on the water with our very own canoe. The Elders and the Staff work with the brothers and share their stories and their traditional knowledge. Activities - We were able to have a few fun activities with the brothers to participate in, always with the safety protocols in place. We had pumpkin carving contest, a gingerbread house contest to name a few. In February the CEO had a barbeque for the brothers and staff, the food was enjoyed by all.

This year we had another low-key Christmas, staff did a lot of shopping for gifts and treats. Santa made an appearance and delivered gifts and goodies. The brothers enjoyed a delicious turkey dinner with all the fixings. Covid19 – The brothers and staff kept in compliance with our safety procedures, we were given Covid19 resource manuals and workbooks to keep us informed and up to date.

Programs – Naa-Na-Himyis has a Pre-Employment program, Circle of Healing program, a Housing Navigator program, and an Outreach Worker. The program facilitators will have a more detailed report on their individual projects.

Staff – We have 9 house support staff that work 24/7. Though we had a few staff leave us, we have two new staff, and we welcome them to the Naa-Na-Himyis team. The training the staff could take this year was online, Workplace Hazardous Material Information Systems, the Federal Occupational Health and Safety Awareness and Workplace Harassment.

I want to thank all the staff for their continued dedication and hard work this past year with coming into work and putting in overtime during the Covid19 pandemic, it is very much appreciated.

Craig Snow – Administrative Assistant  
 Ellen Stewart – Full-time House Supervisor  
 Artemas Lai – Full-time House Supervisor  
 Austin Lee – Full-time House Supervisor  
 Edward Maxwell – Part time/On-call House Supervisor  
 Tanis Berrios – Part time/On-call House Supervisor  
 Far Sabastian – On-call House Supervisor  
 Kelsey Pootlass – On-call House Supervisor  
 Sharon MacAlpine - On-call House Supervisor

This ends my report.  
 Thank you all,  
 Danette Delorme



## Anderson Lodge Healing Centre for Women

By Velma Albert, House Manager

### Introduction

Good evening members of the Circle of Eagle Lodge Society (COELS), Board of Directors, Staff/brothers of Naa-Na-Himyis Brothers' Lodge, and Anderson Lodge staff/sisters. This document serves as the Annual General Meeting report (AGM) for Anderson Lodge.

### Coronavirus Up-date

Although the BC Public Health made changes to the public health order – face covering, on March 11 of this year, COELS continued with its COVID-19 protocol until April 6. Since then, COELS' eased restrictions on most of its pandemic rules to coexist with Public Health. Nevertheless, all sisters and staff are strongly recommended to continue with the following COVID-19 Protocol:

### Staff/Sisters

- Wash hands immediately after entering Anderson Lodge
- Staff/sisters are encouraged to wash hands or use the hand sanitizer as often as they can throughout the day
- Staff/sisters: recommend using a face mask in the common areas except for eating/drinking)
- Remain 2 meters apart from all staff and sisters
- Shift Change Procedure: Staff must call in 10 to 15 minutes before reporting to work
- Upon reporting to work, staff must take their temperature with the portable thermometer in the office. Record it on the staff "Temperature Log."
- All staff must participate in the Staff Safety Plan by checking off, yes/no on the "Daily Health Check-list" document
- A daily temperature check must be taken of all sisters and is recorded in the Temperature Logbook
- Only one or two staff members in the main office
- There is a second office in the facility for a second staff member to work
- Each office and work area must be sanitized when staff has completed their shift. This includes office

- chairs, desks, computers, keyboards, pens, etc.
- All pens, hand-sets, and keys must be sanitized in the main office
- All high-touched areas must be wiped in the two-step procedure: 1. Use the spray bottle of soap/water to wipe the area clean. 2. Use the spray bottle that contains bleach/water. Wipe the areas after step 1. Let dry. This shall be done at least four times per day
- Sisters must keep the common rooms and their personal space sanitized/cleaned using the two-step method
- Staff/sisters must report to their supervisor/staff soon after they have learned that they, a co-worker, or another have symptoms of COVID-19
- Staff is to continually provide messaging to the sisters that if they do not feel well, they inform someone immediately
- Staff/sisters follow all COVID-19 policies posted on the walls of Anderson Lodge
- Follow all cleaning procedures within the facility
- Staff/sisters review all memorandums with the clipboard labeled, "COVID-19" outside the main office door
- Staff/sisters wipe down the tables and areas that have been used before and after each usage

All sisters and staff were provided with personal protective equipment (PPE). They were grateful for the various equipment.

### Wipe all high-touch Areas

This year, one sister continues to have a job of wiping all high-touch areas such as the doorknobs, handles, stair railings, kitchen areas, dining room areas, and the living room areas four times per day. All high-touched areas must be wiped in the two-step procedure: 1. Use the spray bottle of soap/water to wipe the area clean. 2. Use the spray bottle that contains bleach/water. Wipe the areas after step 1. Let dry. This method of lessening the COVID-19 has been working for the sisters and staff at the Lodge. At his time, I would like to thank the sister who has taken on this role as she maintains the high-touch areas three times per day.

### Kitchen staff

- A cook was available onsite from Mondays to Fridays. This year, her task continued to prepare all meals and the handling of the food preparation
- Cover all food at all times

Just as last year (2021), Anderson Lodge continues to keep our sisters and staff safe from the Coronavirus through education. The society continued to provide workbooks and COVID-19 surveys on it. The work benefits our new sisters as they have a better understanding of keeping free of COVID-19. Once our sisters and staff have completed the exercise, the next step was to complete a worksheet that was included. There was a high contribution in these exercises. After each workbook has been completed, all participants received an honorarium.

Fortunately, there is a high number of sisters and staff who were vaccinated; and, when there was an outbreak of COVID-19 at Anderson Lodge all sisters and staff who were vaccinated, recovered at a faster pace.

### **BBQ**

To assist with staff and sisters' COVID-19 fatigue and anxiety, COELS held a BBQ for everyone a few times this year. Our CEO brought the steaks and sausages to barbeque them. While he cooked the steaks/sausages, Anderson Lodge staff prepared salads and drinks. It was well-received by both the sisters and our staff.

Anderson Women's Healing Lodge, Statistic (Homelessness Program)

Information gathered from fiscal-year-end April 1, 2021 - March 31, 2022:

In total, 11 sisters were served. One was between the ages of (19 – 29), nine were between the ages of (30 - 54), and one was over 55 years of age.

All 11 sisters identified as female; and, they all were descendants of Indigenous heritage. Out of the 11 sisters, eight reported their marital status to be single, two common-law, and one was a widow.

In terms of the immediate reason for services, four had spousal abuse, four had family breakdowns, four were evicted from their homes, one was moving to the city, two were stranded in the city, one was from medical treatment, two were from jail, two had drug abuse issues, and four had alcohol abuse issues.

In terms of source of income/change of income, one was employed, three were on disability, six sisters were on social assistance, and one was reported to have no income.

While residing at Anderson Lodge, no one participated in education, and 11 had social and cultural involvement. 11 reported that they had an increase in their cultural engagement or knowledge of their heritage at Anderson Lodge. All 11 had reported that they have gained life skills through workshops/other activities associated with the client's services activities.

In terms of increased access to services and programs, 29 referrals were made: 11 were made to the Spiritual/cultural program, 11 to the COELS housing program, three to emergency services, and four were made to the Anderson Lodge's addiction program.

The major form of housing in the past year: three reported having their own house or apartment, one was from a hospital psychiatric, one came from jail, two were in shared accommodations, two came from another shelter, and three came from a rooming house in Vancouver, BC.

Three secured permanent accommodations, one transferred to another shelter, one was dismissed from Anderson Lodge, six left the program, and one did not return to the Lodge.

Anderson Lodge is in partnership with Luma Native Housing, and Corrections Service of Canada (CSC); and at this time, we would like to take this opportunity to thank them for assisting us in continuing our services to the homeless and Conditional Released Aboriginal women through funding our program.

### **Anderson Lodge Cultural Wellness Program**

#### **Bannock on the Run:**

This project commenced in August 2020. It was operating out of Anderson Lodge at the beginning of the year, but in January 2022 the project was relocated to another site. The cooking and the preparation of the meals were made at the new site, but our sisters continued to arrange the Elders' goodie bags. One sister also participated in the food distribution. She rides with staff and assists with handing out all meals and a goodie bag to 36 elders in total.

#### **Sweat Lodge**

Since March of 2020, Anderson Lodge's sweat lodge ceremonies were postponed until June 2020, and then it was postponed once more due to the Global pandemic in August 2020. Since that time, there was no sweat lodge ceremony offered to Anderson Lodge's sister. However, there is a knowledge keeper and a firekeeper that hold a ceremonial fire for our sisters' treatment.

#### **Ceremonial Fire – February 2022**

We have two past sisters who light a ceremonial fire on Wednesday evenings – a knowledge keeper and a firekeeper. One of the current sisters assisted them when one of the leads was unable to attend. They started the ceremonial fire on February 23, 2022, and continued until the present. Most of the sisters enjoyed the fire. They learned the Indigenous ways of healing and worldview through drumming/singing, storytelling, people telling their stories of their journeys, and information sharing.

#### **Housing Navigator/Employment Training**

The Housing Navigator reports to Anderson Lodge on Thursdays to assist the sisters in securing suitable accommodations. Although there were some struggles in placing our sisters in a place that they can call home, she worked hard in reaching their goal. Some sisters secured a home while others relocated to their family/friends' residences. One huge challenge continues, is that the cost of rent continues to increase, not enough funds to cover the rent. In addition, some landlords completes a check on the sisters and then made the accommodations unavailable to them because of their criminal checks.

COELS' employment/training officer reported to Anderson Lodge on Mondays to assist our sisters with employment and training. Our previous employment officer worked until September 2021 and then left the organization. COELS hired another employment officer and she commenced working with our sisters on February 28, of this year. Both of the employment officers assisted our sisters in preparing resumes/cover letters, online job searches, employment training placements, zoom employment pieces of training, and providing our sisters with work gear to start working. This year, the majority of work that our sisters do was kitchen work: chefs, catering companies, and shelter cooking. Others worked as truck drivers delivering seafood to various restaurants, as support workers in a shelter, and one was a dog trainer.

### Staff Training

This year we continued to see value in staff training; hence, our staff is to attend five training days per year. Staff participated in six zoom training, while we had 15 webinar training. The following are staff training/webinars from April 1, 2020, to March 31, 2021:  
Training April 2021 – March 2022

### Training April 2021 – March 2022

Dates	# of Staff participation	Training	Webinar Training
April. 7, 2021	1 staff		Methamphetamines and Psychosis webinar (HSABC)
April 27, 2021	1 staff		Suicidal risk factors checklist (HSABC)
May 2, 2021	1 staff	Naloxone Training (St Paul's Foundation)	
May 12, 2021	1 staff		Work safe BC Guidelines and Tips for frontline workers (HSABC)
May 16, 2021	1 staff		Food safe and WHIMIS with GHS
June 8, 2021	1 staff		Harm Reduction (HSABC)
June 9, 2021	1 staff		Psychological coping for frontline staff (HSABC)
July 7, 2021	1 staff		Making Relationships work part 2
August 4, 2021	1 staff		Professional workplace boundaries (HSABC)
August 11, 2021	1 staff		Rental tenancy act 101 (HSABC)
August 24, 2021	1 staff		OMS Training (CSC)
September 2, 2021	1 staff		OMS Training (CSC)
October 12, 2021	1 staff		OMS Training (CSC)
December 15, 2021	1 staff		Low Impact Debriefing (HSABC)
January 19, 2022	2 staff		Palliative & homelessness (HSABC)
January 31, 2022	1 staff		First Aid (St Johns Ambulance)
February 8, 2022	1 staff		First Aid (St Johns Ambulance)
February 24, 2022	1 staff		Managing Hostile Integrations (HSABC)
February 26, 2022	1 staff		Federal work Harassment violence, Health & Safety awareness, WHIMIS 2015
March 2022	4 staff		Federal work Harassment violence, Health & Safety awareness, WHIMIS 2015 (HR)
March 24, 2022	1 staff		BC Mental Health Act Rights (HSABC)

We welcome various training for our staff to participate and to benefit our team, it would be our pleasure to join you in your training.

### **Corrections Service of Canada (CSC)**

From April 1, 2021, to March 31, 2022, Anderson Lodge served 19 women on Conditional Releases. 14 were on Day Parole while three were on Statutory Release with Residency, one on Long-term-supervisions, and one on full parole with Residency. Two out of the 19 CSC sisters were of high-risk status, and four were considered high needs sisters.

Three were between the ages of (19-29), 13 were between the ages of (30-54), and three were reported to be within the 55+ category. In addition to the 19 women on Conditional releases, we also served one transgender person. 11 were of Aboriginal descent, while eight were of non-Aboriginal descendants.

For this year, out of the 19 sisters, 16 reported their marital status to be single. Zero was married, one was separated, two were in a common-law relationship, zero was legally divorced, and no one was reported to be a widow. In terms of children, out of the 19 sisters, there were 16 children: six of them were with family members, none were in Ministry Care, and 10 were grown adults.

In terms of employment, three CSC sisters worked full-time, six worked part-time, and one was self-employed.

In the fiscal year 2021/22, Anderson Lodge had some successes in assisting the CSC sisters in the area of private accommodations; two reached their full parole, two reached their statutory release date, and one reached their Warrant Expiry Date. In addition, one transferred to another Community Residential Facility (CRF) and one transferred to a residential treatment center. Most of them were successful in securing private accommodations.

Six were suspended due to substance use, two went Unlawfully at Large (UAL), and Six remained at the facility to continue the program.

Not only does this group of sisters attend our in-house program, but attended the CSC and community programs as well.

### **Urinalysis (UA) Program**

In August 2021 CSC trained six of our staff members to collect Urinalysis (UA) at Anderson Lodge. This year, this program continues to be in good operation. CSC continues to refer sisters from Anderson Lodge, sisters from the community, and the other CRF(s) to have a UA done at the Anderson Lodge's site. As this program was in operation for only one year, we are happy to report that all is well and is progressing positively.

### **Institutional Visits**

There were no Institutional visits to the Fraser Valley Institution due to the Coronavirus outbreak in our community. The last visit was in early March 2020. This writer has not seen an invitation to the Institution this year as the pandemic continues.

To keep in spirit with our contract, we have accepted more telephone calls/ letter writings with the sisters at the Fraser Valley Institution.

#### *Acknowledgment of Staff:*

- |                      |   |
|----------------------|---|
| • Velma Albert       | - House Manager                                 |
| • Ida Joe            | - Administration Assistant                      |
| • Laurie Ahdemar     | - Alcohol & Drug Counselor                      |
| • Chona Ureta        | - House Support /Bannock on the Run Coordinator |
| • Mavis Williams     | - House Support                                 |
| • Rose Marie Francis | - House Support                                 |
| • Lisa Snow          | - House Support                                 |
| • Ellen Stewart      | - On-Call relief                                |
| • Andrea Peters      | - On-Call relief                                |
| • Stacey Pascal      | - On-Call relief                                |
| • Shaunee Jack       | - On-Call relief                                |

#### *Acknowledgment of Practicum Student:*

- Maya Paige - Alcohol & Drug Counselor – NVIT

Although Ms. Paige helped us from April 12, 2022 (after March 31, 2022), until current, we well like to acknowledge her for her hard work in learning to help our sisters and other community brothers and sisters who are struggling with substance. Thank you for caring Maya.

Without our staff/practicum student, we would not be able to have a successful program this year. I thank you all for your hard work and dedication to our sisters, and the Circle of Eagles Lodge Society. Musi Cho!

We also would like to thank the Housing Navigator (Crystal Roy), COELS Employment Officer (Isadore Philips/ Jenelle Palfreyman), for working and supporting our sisters through this challenging year as we continue with the global pandemic.

Conclusion

This concludes Anderson Lodge's report for this 2021/2022 fiscal year-end Annual General Meeting.

Musi Cho...



## Circle of Eagles Trading Post (COETP)

By Amanda McGee

Throughout this year despite COVID we were able to continue to grow the Trading Post. Our official opening was on National Indigenous Peoples Day on June 21. We continued to work with the Brothers and Sisters in the community to acquire their artwork to increase product within the store. This included beading items, various paintings, carvings, and drums. We have worked with our graphics designer to produce a few products that are great additions to the store. These products include orange t-shirts, greeting cards and canvases.

We have had the opportunity to build some great relationships with other organizations to help with promoting COETP. In November we became a member of Buy Social Canada which represents social enterprises and provides avenues in which they offer support and help introduce social enterprises to one another. As a result of this membership, in December we were featured on Global News at Noon's "Feel good gift guide" for local Christmas gift shopping ideas. This provided an increase in our social media traffic.

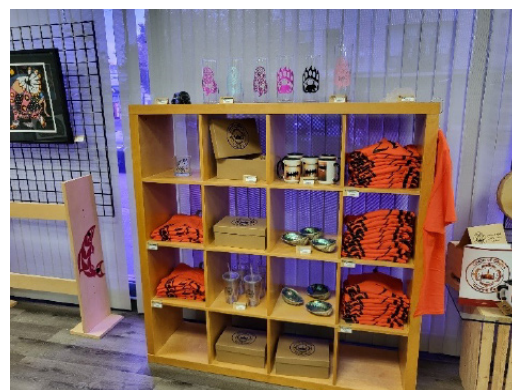
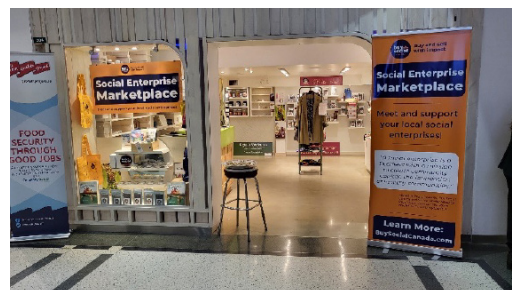
We were also invited to take part in two wonderful opportunities. One was a local event hosted by Exchange Inner City where we were provided a table.

During that event we were invited to be part of a pop-up shop at the Bentall Centre in Vancouver. This was providing the ability for local social enterprises associated with Buy Social Canada to increase marketing while being in a high traffic area in the downtown core.

In conjunction with an article that was written in Alberta Native News in the spring, we also experienced an increase in not only our Facebook page views but also the Trading Post website views and a substantial increase in online purchase orders primarily in the province and a couple nationally.

We have been aiming to promote COETP as a showroom rather than a gallery. This has been in effort to try and mitigate COVID if possible and try and create a more significant online presence. We do continue to utilize Lightspeed as our Point of Sale and our website is hosted through them.

We have new Brothers and Sisters in the community regularly. They all have their own skills, strengths, and weaknesses. Many are amazing artists that do not have the connections to fairly sell their items. We are working to increase the number of artists that we work with the continued overall goal being to work with them helping to build their self-confidence, self-esteem, and work towards being pro-social members of society.





2008 Wall Street,  
Vancouver, B.C.

778-658-5999

[www.circleofeaglestradingpost.ca](http://www.circleofeaglestradingpost.ca)



**Circle of Eagles  
Trading Post  
One Year  
Anniversary  
June 21st, 2022**



# Circle Of Healing Outreach

By Jennifer Cappello

We have made it through another year of the COVID-19 pandemic and we have found different ways to improve our work that we do with the Brothers so they can be successful in the community while following covid restrictions. We develop plans/calendars with the Brothers that addresses their needs and goals that they have. These plans /calendars allow us to monitor their progress in the community and assist them with whatever they need to do to complete tasks and accomplish their goals.

We have also been assisting them with following and understanding the COVID 19 protocols at the CRF. They have been changing on an ongoing basis, so it is challenging to keep up and the Brothers sometimes don't understand why we have these covid protocols. We have been working with our COVID team to assist the Brothers with making appointments and getting their COVID 19 vaccines. We have also been assisting the Brothers with getting their vaccine passports so that they participate in activities in the community that require a vaccine passport for entry.

This past year some of the cultural activities that the Brothers used to participate in slowly started opening up. We were finally able to attend some outdoor cultural nights events with the Brothers in the summer and they seemed to really enjoy them. It allowed them to engage in their culture after not having these events for over a year. These cultural nights ended when summer was over because they were not able to have them inside due to the COVID restrictions. We are hoping to attend an in person Pow Wow with the Brothers that is in May. Hopefully this is the start of more in person cultural events.

We continue to help the Brothers set up their basic necessities when they are released to the community. However, we continue to do the tasks differently due to the COVID. Some covid protocols have made some tasks easier to do such as booking appts for to get photo identification online instead of just going to ICBC and waiting in a lineup. In addition, we have been attending medical appointments and helping the Brothers obtain the proper medication. We also help them register for medical health coverage if they don't already have it set up. It is challenging to help the Brothers find a family doctor but we do make sure we at least get them an appointment at a health drop in clinic to get their health needs met.

We have been working closely with the Indigenous Community Liaison Officer to assist with connecting the Brothers to indigenous resources in the community. She

helps us with referrals for counselling for the Brothers and she checks in with them regularly to provide support. She also has been assisting the Brothers with the replacement of their status cards. She hasn't been able to meet with the Brothers in person much the last year because of the pandemic but she does connect with them over the phone. She plans on spending time at the CRF in person more often now that some of the COVID restrictions have been lifted.

We have been referring the Brothers to the Circle of Eagles resource center staff to get assistance with certain tasks. They have been assisting the Brothers with their housing search and helping them navigated through the process of finding housing. The process for finding suitable housing for the Brothers is not easy but working with our COELS housing staff makes it easier. We have also been referring the Brothers to them to get help with completing their taxes. Furthermore, our COELS peer support worker assists us with taking the Brothers to appointments and meeting with the Brothers to provide extra one on one support. We have also been referring them to the COELS Pre-employment counsellor who has been assisting the Brothers with setting up job training, finding employment and registering for school. We are lucky to have all of this extra support in community for the Brothers. It really has helped them accomplish their goals in the community.

We also attend appointments with the Brothers in the community. It allows us to provide support and show them how to get where they need to go. It also allows for staff to sit with them at their appointments even if we are somewhere for a couple of hours. Some of the Brothers have told us they wouldn't have waited so long as certain appointments if staff were not with them. We try to make their adjustment to the community easier if possible and provide as much support as we can. Towards the end of the year we had a practicum student working us who helped the Brothers with various tasks. Having an extra person to help with some of the tasks and things that the Brothers needed to get done was very helpful and we were able to accomplish a lot of tasks. The Brothers were open to the extra help and working with someone new.

Overall, the past year we have faced different challenges with the Brothers but we have also watched them succeed in many different areas of their release. The Brothers have demonstrated that they want to do well and that they benefit from the extra support we provide them on a regular basis. We hope to continue to assist them with their release to the community and hope to have access to more cultural community resources for them now that COVID restrictions are being lifted.

# Peer and Housing Support

By Rob Bain

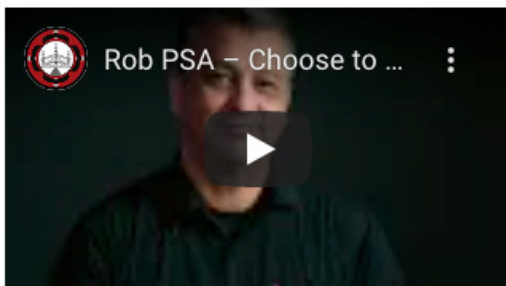
## Peer Support

Well, it has come to that time again for the annual report. The last year has been another roller coaster ride for COELS with this pandemic that is still looming. We pray to the Creator to watch over all of us and give us the strength to move forward in a positive manner.

The new year started with a little bit of hope. We have been bringing Brothers to a “Pop-Up” clinic for their first shot. The first weekend was for those who are elevated risk, and we provided rides to those in need. The second week was open to staff at COELS and the turnout was amazing. Majority of the staff that day made it to the clinic for their first shot. This would provide a bit of relief to all that have been worried about getting sick. We would continue promoting the vaccine and the benefits to all those who we serve. This has been a bit of a battle, but majority of the brothers have been vaccinated.

As we moved into the warmer months, we are given a little bit of relief with a substantial portion of the population has chosen to be vaccinated. This will make it easier for us to meet all those who are in the community. We continue to encourage getting vaccinated and with the help from the COVID response team we continue to provide vital information. This information has been presented in booklets, posters and P.S.A.’s. This is the P.S.A. I did.

Rob PSA – Choose to Get Vaccinated, Get Your Booster Shots – Find Your Reason!



Rob PSA

We continued to provide grocery hampers during this time to those who were struggling with food insecurities. “Bannock on the run” has provided over 180 food hampers to over a dozen households during this time. These hampers were filled with produce, dairy and pantry or items they might not receive from the food bank. As the demand for this initiative started to grow, we had to shift the program to Outreach and their new partnership with The Greater Vancouver Food Bank. This new partnership will be able to reach more people who are facing food insecurities.

Throughout this year I have been meeting with the new brothers when they arrive at the house. This is my time to introduce myself and to welcome them to Naa-Na-Himyis. I take this time to inform them of the opioid crisis that is currently happening in our community. This time is used to train them on how to use naloxone (shot) and Narcan (nasal

spray). I also inform them on the Good Samaritan law and how it can protect them if they are in a O.D. situation with someone. These talks are important and hopefully we can prevent a tragedy. I also make myself available to the brothers when I am there for any reason they need. These talks can be helpful for everyone since they can get something off their mind and relieve a little tension doing so.

One of the other aspects of the Peer Support initiative is to support those who are going through various issues. There are a few brothers that needed the extra support, and this could be just a ride to a doctor’s appointment or just an ear to listen. These rides are also a suitable time for them to talk about what they are going through and how we can help.

The last year has really shown us that the need for peer support is important. The Brothers and Sisters need the extra support since they must deal with a bit more than those who are not in the system. I hope in the coming years that we can utilize this initiative to help more people in the community and not just those who are housed with u

## Peer Support - Housing and Support Program H.A.S.P.

The past year for the Housing and Support Program has been interesting to say the least. Once again, the pandemic is adding to the stress of finding affordable housing. Throughout the year we have seen the rise in rent and the decline of vacancy. We try our best to find suitable permanent housing. When we do the intake, we try to get all the information needed to accommodate their needs. With this information we can try to find something to fulfil their housing needs.

When we do house a person, they are offered a “Start-up Kit” This kit includes bedding, towels, pots, pans, cutlery, shower curtains and approved requested items. We also refer them to outside agencies that can supply furniture and other household items.

COELS has welcomed the New Outreach team and they are doing their best with our growing demand. This team is more focussed on the community but is assisting with our needs. This could be some guidance with those who are hard to house or just sharing contacts that can help us. This additional help is welcomed and needed to help fulfil the demand.

As we conclude this report, we want to remember all those who we have lost this year. We lost a few Brothers and Sisters this year and it does not get easier to say goodbye. Thank you to all those who are here today, and we love you to all those who have passed.

Thank you  
Rob Bain  
Peer and Housing Support Worker

# COVID-19 Response

By COELS COVID-19 Coordinator (CCC)  
Jason Lawrence

## Response overview

COELS CEO led our response to the COVID-19 pandemic, with the project coordinator and supported by other staff members.

For consultation on COELS COVID-19 response, there were several meetings with an Indigenous steering committee, CSC, BCCDC and lots of communication with VCH. We also received input from our residents and staff with meetings and feedback questionnaires. COELS has had to re-evaluate our COVID-19 response and adjust procedures whenever public health made announcements or when experiencing an outbreak. When we made changes, we sent out memos to inform staff and clients.

## Outbreaks

There were three waves of COVID-19 outbreaks including the omicron. For staffing concerns shift charts were shared between the locations. We purchased K-N95 for everyone during the omicron variant outbreak. Food and medicine was purchased and delivered to help staff and residents that could not be at our locations due to isolation.

Three sisters and three brothers had to be taken off site and put into hotels, while at least eleven staff took time off work; Lisa S.W., Mavis W., Henry P., Velma A., Ida J., Amanda M., Rob B., Sarah T., Chona U., Crystal R., and Lela, most of these people were brought food and/or medicine along with a few clients, Mark H., Ken C.

## Resources/Awareness

Utilizing a public relations consultant we created a media campaign around COVID-19 awareness, vaccine hesitancy and safety.

We created new resources, including two new COVID-19 books, three PSAs that utilized staff and Brothers, over 35 carefully designed boosted social media posts on FB and Instagram IG, and six posters. The books had dated information from health authorities, supportive community resources and our updated policies.

We adapted the delivery of the messaging to be comprehensive and would speak to those who would be seeing it. The resources had to be concise, culturally safe and disseminated in a variety of ways.

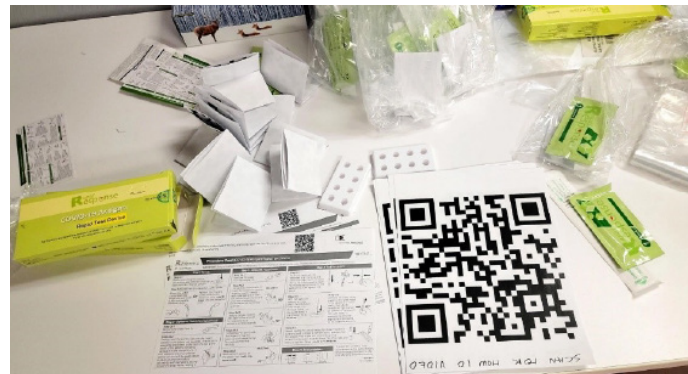
The above-mentioned resources were printed, over 170 packages sent in mailouts, and delivered to both

houses. Downloadable versions were put on our website and shared on social media. We created questionnaires to evaluate comprehension of most information and provided an honorarium for participation.

We hired an Indigenous consulting company to analyze the data and provide reports.

We assisted the BCCDC to connect with our Brothers to provide input on providing culturally sensitive COVID-19 responses in an all day workshop at our resource centre.

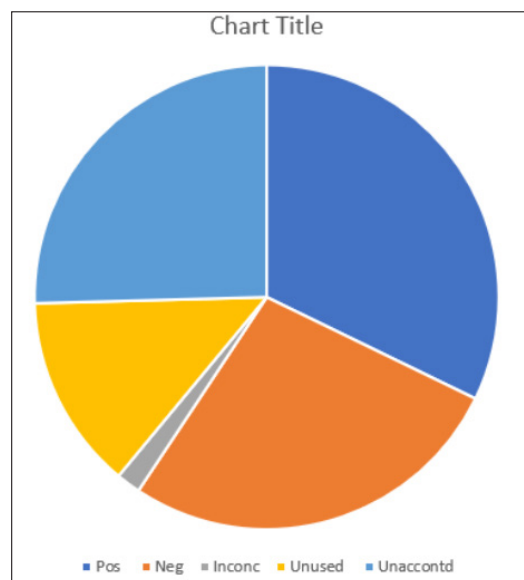
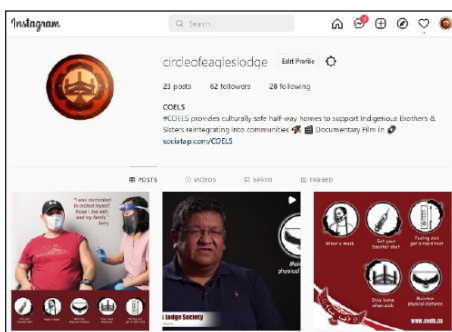
We assisted the BCCDC to connect with our Brothers to provide input on providing culturally sensitive COVID-19 responses in an all day workshop at our resource centre.



## Testing

We began sourcing rapid tests after PCR tests became unavailable. We began contacting suppliers, had family friends mail some from out of province. We acquired one hundred tests, which only fifty could be utilized one at a time. We then applied to government programs to provide bulk tests, the process became too cumbersome.

Things changed again and we were able to request two hundred tests from the civic health authority VCH. The tests were packaged individually for distributing them with instructions and QR codes to videos online. Thirty-six tests were reported since January 1, 2022, with nineteen positive results, sixteen negative, one inconclusive. At very least eight tests given out were not used and approximately fifteen have been misplaced or used without reporting.

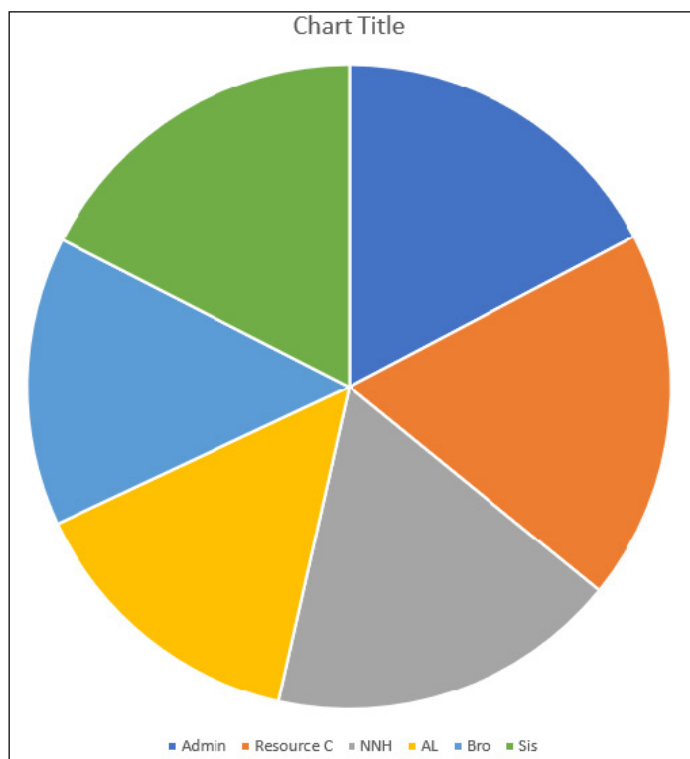


## Vaccines

Vaccines were introduced on a priority basis for specific demographics, such as essential workers, elders and those with compromised immunity etc. There was a lot communication to connect people with pop up clinics, and the registration process for second doses, boosters and the government passports. We requested that CSC provide an official letter of support to qualify our staff as essential, then provided that to health authorities to access vaccines for our staff. A vaccine tracking sheet was created and updated as staff and clients got vaccines, as new people arrived or left, or intervals between shots.

Some people got flustered with the process. Some had hesitancy or refused.

Of all COELS family getting to three inoculations, the following percentages are reported: 100 % of admin staff, 100% of Resource Centre staff, 95% Naa-na-himyis staff, 78% of Anderson staff, 78% of Brothers and 94% of the Sisters.



## Distancing /Cleaning

scheduled and arranged outdoor meetings and events such as a celebration of life and a few outdoor barbecues. We put up plexiglass barriers for in person meetings in our board room, which were moved when needed. We purchased a gazebo for our front yard. Began our remodeling of sheds with a major clean out. Scheduling cleaners, clutter at Wall Street

## Person Protective Equipment (PPE)

We supplied our staff and residents with masks, sanitizer, disinfectant, wipes, gowns, shields, wastepaper baskets for Moved furniture and workstations to accommodate distancing needs for staff client meetings, outside quarantine rooms. We purchased disposable dishes and dispensers for all locations. Sourced K-N95 and N95 masks for outbreaks. The process of using K95 masks needed research on use and fitting. This required hiring a fitting consultant and tracking of use for each person, which we did not have capacity to do. Picked up donated PPE from other organizations. Did inventory. Created new kits

## IT

To allow for remote and distanced working, there was some IT connectivity and troubleshooting that was addressed, a complete overhaul of a digital phone system at our resource centre with getting contracts signed, training and wiring, printer and wi-fi issues, purchasing new eight computers for staff so they can work remotely., and set up, setting up new cell phones for the outreach staff. Assisting staff with instruction and troubleshooting.

## Film

As media was becoming an important role to create awareness, we continued to work on our documentary film, which has the capacity to create awareness about the work we do. A majority of filming was completed, but we did a few more interviews, watched edits and completed the film. We created a media package and registered for several film festivals through an online portal, wrote synopsis and a press release. Assembled awards laurels as they were won, worked with graphics team to update. Contacted other Indigenous organizations about the film screenings internationally. We worked with a publicity consultant to create a media campaign including social media that aligned with truth and reconciliation dates.

## Christmas

We managed to purchase gifts for staff and residents for Christmas organize special dinners.

## Window Film

As we are utilizing our resource centre to store food, PPE and other COVID-19 supplies, we covered our windows with tinting for security. Had to move things for a flood at our resource centre.

## Health Insurance

We decided to implement health care insurance for employees for extra coverage which required a lot of communications, gathering information and meetings with insurer.

# Circle of Eagles Outreach Program (COP)

By Henry Peters

Outreach Navigator/ Kitchen Co-Ordinator- Outreach Department / Dinner chef at Naa Na Himyis  
My name is Henry, and I began my journey at Circle of Eagles in April of 2021. While it has been an absolute rollercoaster of a year with Covid-19, housing crisis and the opioid crisis ravaging to our brothers and sisters, we must look towards a brighter future and hold that dear to our hearts to try and make a better future moving forward. I've had the privilege of working alongside my colleagues; Rob, Crystal, Amanda and Greg, and under the guidance and leadership of Sarah Thomas, things have been fantastic for me at COELS. I've learned so much and will continue to learn so much more. We have so much to offer the community and I've been blessed to take this journey with all of you.

I've done a number of different jobs this year and in this report, I will highlight the different ways I've contributed to COELS.

## Homeless Food Handout-DTES

I was previously with the Aboriginal Mother Center before working with Circle of Eagles, cooking the meals for the homeless. I then started working with COELS to do the homeless meals once a week, outreach work, making dinner for the brothers at Naa Na Himyis and the Bannock on the Run Program to feed the Elders.

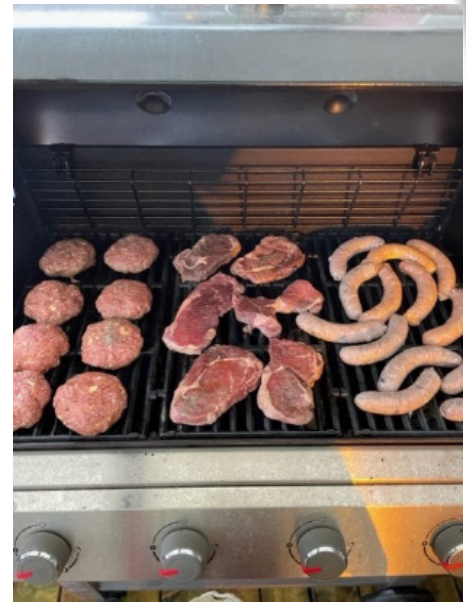
Since May 2021, we've handed out 40 times throughout the year with us handing out in total 3780 sandwiches, 3980 bags of cookies, 2200 juice boxes, 1870 Pepsi, 1530 bottles of water, 550 coffee, 1180 hot dogs, 500 portions of pancake, sausages, bacon and eggs, 620 portions of chili lime corn, 620 portions of potato salad, 700 bags of chips, 500 blueberry muffins, 1800 soups with a total of 800 pieces of Bannock given out. All in all, a total of 24,410 drinks, soups, sandwiches, hot dogs and Bannock were given out to the homeless. We had a total of 5 BBQ's, 2 community pancake breakfasts, 4 cold cereal handouts with us handing out the bagged lunches 29 times throughout the year.

In May, we gave out 300 bagged lunches consisting of Deli Sandwiches, Juice boxes and Oreo cookie packets. Friday, June 4th, we had a community BBQ at Abbott and Hastings. We served 360 hot dogs, 400 bottles of water, 400 bags of chips to the community. On Friday June 18th, we had another BBQ for Fathers Day at Pigeon Park. We served 320 Hot Dogs, 320 cans of Pepsi, 320 portions of Potato Salad and 320 portions of Chili Lime Corn. It was a runaway success and everyone who came by left full and with a smile on their face. On June 25th, we did our first cold cereal handout to the community, with us handing out a total of 200 boxes of cereal with coffee to the DTES. We also gave out 200 bagged lunches the week prior. In July, we handed out 580 bagged lunches consisting

of a deli sandwich, juice boxes and cookies. We did our second cereal giveaway during the heatwave, giving out 150 individual boxes of cereal and 150 portions of iced coffees. On Friday, July 23rd, we had our 3rd BBQ at Abbott and Hastings, serving 320 hot dogs, 320 bottles of water, 320 macaroni salad and 320 chili lime corn. In August, we gave out a total of 600 bagged lunches to the DTES. We had our 3rd cereal handout on August 13th at Gore and Hastings, with us handing out 200 bowls of cereal and 200 bottles of water. In September, I was anticipating the colder weather coming upon us, so I opted to start making soups for the homeless, as it would keep them warm and provide nutrition to an already nutrient starved people. I made 200 portions of Beef Stew, consisting of Potatoes, carrots, peas, beef, and onion. I always had the idea to make it similar to a familiar homemade meal for the homeless, so I choose to make it similar to a Chunky Soup or Campbells style of soup. It would eliminate any confusion to anyone who wasn't familiar with different style of ingredients, and it would be something they could enjoy and would provide nutrients. I used this approach of providing soup to the DTES since I first started and will continue this approach. We had our final BBQ of the year at Pigeon Park, with us serving 300 hot dogs, 300 portions of homemade macaroni salad, 300 portions of chili lime corn and 300 bottles of water. We also gave out 500 bagged lunches in September. In October, we had our first of 2 Community Pancake Breakfast. We had it in front of the Resource Center at 2008 Wall St. It consisted of 300 plates of Sausages, Maple Bacon, Buttermilk Pancakes and Scrambled Eggs. Served also was Orange Juice and fresh Hot Coffee. It was a success and brought the whole community out. We gave out a total of 400 bagged lunches in October.

In November, we had our final Community Pancake Breakfast of the year. We served Sausages, Maple Bacon, Buttermilk Pancakes, and Scrambled Eggs again, with orange juice and fresh hot coffee being served. We gave out 250 plates of food. We also gave out 150 portions of Chili and 200 portions of Cheeseburger Soup. They were served with fresh Bannock. In December, we gave out 200 portions of Beef Stew, 200 Beef Chili and 200 Chicken Noodle Soup. The Chili and Stew were served with Bannock and the Chicken Noodle with Saltine Crackers. We also gave out 200 bagged lunches with Turkey and Pesto Sandwiches, topped with fresh lettuce and tomato.

January 2022, I wanted to start the new year off with hot soup because of the cold weather. I made a hearty Beef and Barley soup. We gave out a total of 200 bagged lunches in January. February, I made 250 portions of Beef Stew. We gave out bottled water and warm Bannock. A total of 400 bagged lunches were handed out in February. March saw us participate in something called Aura Team Day, which saw COELS team up with other companies to give out food to the DTES on Abbott and Hastings. We gave out 200 hot dogs with 300 bags of chips and 300 cans of soda. We gave out 400 bagged lunches and a total of 200 hot chili and hot Bannock in March.



### Bannock on the Run- Elders Food Program

I started doing the Bannock on the Run Elder Food program on Wednesday, December 1st. Did the program a total of 8 times from December 2021- April 2022. Made a total of 288 meals with us handing out 288 bagged lunches consisting of Blueberry Muffins, chocolate and vanilla pudding, fruit cups, apple sauce, oranges, apples, bananas, oatmeal, hot chocolate, coffee, tea, and crackers. Chona and I would make these meals at the rented kitchen at 266 Raymur Ave, package them up there and then deliver them along with the bagged lunches. We would try and talk with the elders and bring a little bit of joy to them in our short time with them. I always made 36 meals for each with each of them consisting of a protein, carb, and vegetable. I made as follows:

- Dec 1st- Salt and Pepper chicken drumsticks with broccoli and rice
- Dec 15th- Oven roasted chicken breast with rice and vegetables
- Jan 5th- Honey Glazed Ham with Garlic mashed potatoes and Peas, Carrots and Corn

- Feb 2nd- Individual chicken pot pie and 36 macaroni salad
- Feb 16- Oven Roasted Hamburger steaks, mushroom gravy, Garlic mashed potatoes and asparagus
- March 2nd- Shake n bake chicken, chicken rice and Green Beans
- March 16th- 14-hour Slow roasted beef with mashed potatoes and carrots with homestyle gravy
- March 30th- Chicken chow mien with ambrosia salad for dessert.

### Dinners at Naa Na Himyis

COELS was a bit short staffed during the pandemic in 21/22. I was one of the dinner chefs at Naa Na Himyis. I made a total of 1120 meals for the brothers from October 2021-March 2022, with each meal making roughly 40 plates of food for the brothers. I had a great time doing so, with me learning a lot about them, making them meals they enjoyed and would never get outside of a restaurant. I mixed my

**Fathers Day  
Homeless BBQ and  
Clothes Giveaway!**  
Friday, June 18th  
@12 NOON

**At Pender and Carall St**

**Across the Street from The West Pub...**  
Hot Dogs, Potato Salad, Corn and Drinks, plus clothing giveaway




JOIN US AT CIRCLE OF EAGLES LODGE SOCIETY FOR A

# PANCAKE BREAKFAST

FRIDAY  
OCTOBER 8TH  
2008 WALL ST  
10AM-12PM

SERVING  
PANCAKES,  
SAUSAGES,  
BACON, EGGS  
AND COFFEE



\* PLEASE WEAR A MASK AND FOLLOW COVID PROTOCOL GUIDELINES \*



homestyle cooking with a bit of experimentation and lots of BBQ. I usually did Wednesdays and Fridays. I BBQ'd for the brothers on Christmas eve for christmas and again in February to celebrate the brothers and sisters following the Covid Protocols throughout the pandemic. It was great and really brought everyone together. The meals I did as follows:

- October 2021- 1 regular dinner with 1 BBQ with 26 lbs of brisket, 40 burgers, 40 sausages, potato salad, pasta salad, 40 pops and 40 chips
- November 2021- 5 regular dinners
- December 2021- 5 regular dinners with 1 BBQ at Naa Na Himyis on Christmas eve, made 40 steaks, 40 burgers, 40 sausages, potato salad, Caesar salad, pasta salad, cake, pop and chips
- January 2022- 6 regular dinners
- February 2022- 6 dinners with 1 BBQ at Anderson Lodge with 25 burgers, 25 steaks, 25 sausages, potato salad, chips and pop, 1 bbq at Naa NA Himyis with 40 burgers, 40 steaks, 40 sausages, potato salad, chips and pop
- March 2022- 2 regular dinners

### Outreach Work

Housing this year has been awful to say the least. With Covid still running rampant in the community and beyond, it's been hard to find adequate housing for my clients, either in market rent or in supportive/non supportive housing. It's been a struggle, but with the guidance and help from Sarah Thomas, we've been able to house a number of clients. I've had 18 case files through out the year, with 10 if the files being closed. With help from Sarah Thomas, the office manager, Blayne Redcalf, James Davis and Larry Glowacki all were housed and their places were all furnished with kitchen supplies and bedding.

I currently have 8 open files, with me trying to find housing for them or get them into supportive housing. I helped all my clients with acquiring their Renting it Right 1&2, make up a housing resume and write a support letter for the potential landlords. I would also help them with searching for market rentals and call the landlords to organize a time. Most have come from an addictions

background and are trying to get off the streets so I'd go with them to each of the viewings to help them along and make sure they are being shown respect and given a fair shot. I would make roughly 60 calls/texts to each of my clients per month, with me making on average 20 calls to landlords for each of my clients and 25+ emails for each if my clients. In total I've made 1250 calls/texts back and forth from the clients and myself, roughly 250 calls/emails to landlords and on average and I would check out 50 listings a month on Craigslist for my clients. My clients are as follows: Health and Safety Manual for BOTR, Food Handout and Community BBQ

In May of 2021, we started handing out the food to the DTES. It was made aware that there needed to be a system to how we hand out the food and how to keep us and the residents safe. I created the Health and Safety Manual for BOTR, Food Handout and Community BBQ. It's a 9-page document that highlights topics like Food Preparation, Organization, General Job Safety, Acting Professional in Uncomfortable Situations, making sure Food goes to Correct residents, Proper Cleanup, Post Food Handout and at the end of the booklet, they would have to sign and date so I would be aware they read and understood all the information relayed to them.

### Rented Kitchen

We rented a kitchen called Small Potatoes Commissary at 266 Raymur Ave. We had 3 days available to us, with us using that time to prepare the Bannock on the Run meals and the Soups for the homeless. It was a fantastic space that provided us the necessary space to prepare and package the meals.

### Conclusion

It has been a wild year at COELS, and while seemingly impossible tasks such as finding housing may look bleak, its important to move forward and try and make a difference. I believe with all of us here, we can make a positive contribution and house people, make nutritious meals for the vulnerable that can't make meals for themselves, and provide people with an equal chance at housing and a chance to make themselves feel human again. Here's to another year!



# Bannock on The Run (BOTR)

By Chona Ureta

The past year was another active year for the Bannock on the Run program. BOTR involves serving the Elders with a healthy meal every other week. We believe that the Bannock on the Run program operates as effectively, and efficiently as possible to meet the expectations and goals of the program. We look forward to continuing with the BOTR program because of how successful it has been.

Presently, we serve BOTR every other Wednesday by delivering a healthy meal to approximately 36 Elders. We also put together a bag with some individual items that can be enjoyed later. These goodie bags often had an individual instant coffee, some tea bags, a package of instant oatmeal, a package of apple cider or hot chocolate, 2 pieces of fruit – apple, orange or banana, crackers, and a muffin. One of our primary factors considered when planning each of the meals is our budget. We try and stay mindful of our spending even with the increase in the costs of food while staying within the parameters of Canada's Food Guide.

From the month of April 2021 until November 2021 we had a routine where we would plan the meal and shop for the food on the Tuesday and cook the meal and deliver it on the Wednesday. Starting in the month of December we chose to transition to online shopping in coordination with Sysco. This has helped with the bulk purchasing and saved on shopping time. We also created a new intake form that was distributed to each of the Elders so that we can have updated information related to them as well as dietary needs so that we can be mindful of their restrictions.

This program is beneficial not only for the Elders that we work with but also with our Sisters residing at Anderson Lodge. Their commitment to the program and their assistance is what helps keep it going. They are actively involved in participating with the program. For their help they receive an hourly honorarium of \$15. This helps them work toward other goals in preparation for the next stages in their journey. We try and schedule them using a rotation, depending on their availability to provide everyone the opportunity to help and serve the Elders. Over the last year we have had 93 different occurrences of volunteering.

We also tried to provide extra little treats for the Elders during special occasions. In September for orange t-shirt day/Truth and Reconciliation Day on the 30th we provided and orange t-shirt to each of the Elders. For Christmas we had personalized elves made for each one. Our outreach program partnered with the Greater Vancouver Food Bank in early February and for a few of our BOTR deliveries we also had some fresh produce and non-perishable items that we were able to provide them.

During the last fiscal year, we were able to serve 864 meals to the Elders. We feel that it was hugely successful in helping those struggling and those who are lonely. This statistic is a great number to see knowing that they received a healthy meal and provided them with a bag of goodies.

We were still working with COVID-19 protocols and practices. For a time BOTR had rented a kitchen space in the community to use to prepare meals. This was utilized for approximately 6-months and then we were able to move to Naa-na-himiyis. We practiced proper COVID-19 precautions using gloves, wearing masks, and not cooking or volunteering if feeling unwell. We were also mindful to individually package items for the Elders and get pre-packaged items for their goodie bag that we distributed with each meal and practice social distancing.

Each time we go to make our delivery the Elders express such gratitude. They have mentioned that they appreciate they are thought of and share touching words. Often, there are a few of them waiting in the lobby of one of the buildings which we deliver to. Seeing them and hearing what they have to say helps make the whole program even more enjoyable; it makes the hard work worth it.



# Circle of Healing K'emk'emelay Pre-Employment Program

My name is Jenelle, and I began working as the K'emk'emelay Pre-Employment Program Coordinator at the beginning of January 2022. Being welcomed into such a warm and supportive environment over the last several months has felt like an answered prayer. This position has required flexibility and adjustment as the COVID-19 pandemic shifted the regular operation of pre-employment programming. Due to the established safety precautions for all staff and Brothers and Sisters working with COELS, the K'emk'emelay Pre-Employment Program could not operate as previously established. However, despite these challenges, we have continued to support Brothers and Sisters residing at the Na'Naa Himyis and Anderson Healing Lodges, Community Residential Facilities within Metro Vancouver Community Corrections and others residing in private residences throughout the Metro Vancouver community.

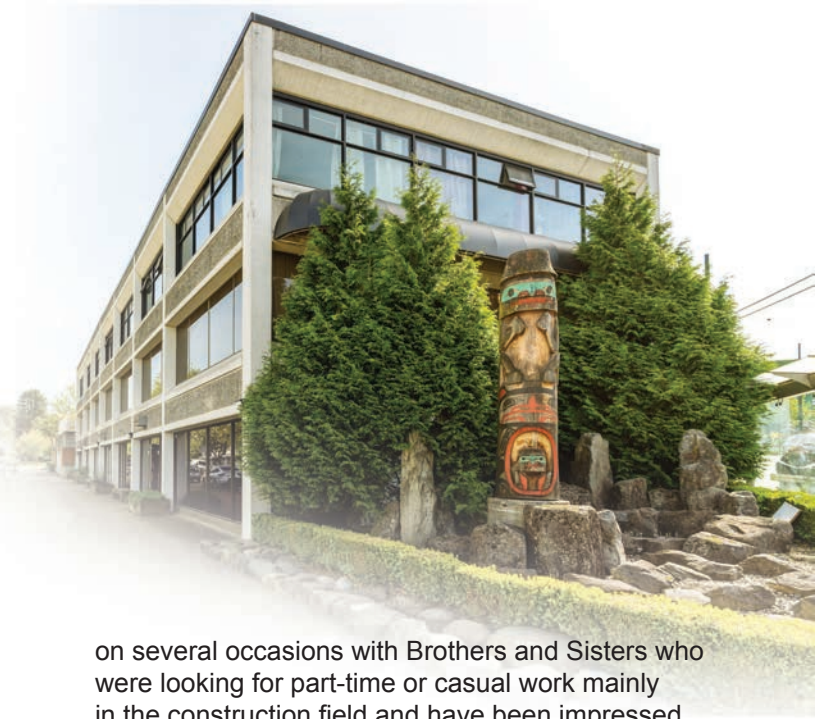
The health and safety measures that have put our regular programming on hold has provided me the benefit of time to work closely with each Brother and Sister to assess their personal goals and needs in relation to their education and career aspirations. We have helped with resume development, training enrollment, career/goal exploration, job searches and obtaining work attire. I have spent most of my time working out of Na'Naa Himyis, providing ample time to speak to the Brothers more frequently and developing relationships with everyone in the house. I work closely with the staff and Sisters at Anderson Lodge and am onsite at least once per week to meet with Sisters needing assistance with education and/or work. Additionally, I am available to visit the house as frequently as required and continue to work to build relationships with the staff and Sisters and Anderson Lodge.

We maintain and strengthen our relationships between Circle of Eagles Lodge Society and organizations such as ACCESS, Bladerunners, Embers Staffing Solutions, Trauma Tech, Traffic Control Academy, Working Gear, Native Education College and Nicola Valley Institute of Technology, while working to build new relationships with members of these organizations. We acknowledge that in order to support the Brothers and Sisters in the greatest way possible, we rely on our relationships with our community partners. I regularly attend many of these locations and more with the Brothers and Sisters to ensure they are able to locate the offices and make their appointments on time. This also provides me the opportunity to meet the staff at these organizations and develop a relationship with them. Since reopening at their new location, the staff at Working Gear have been accommodating with our needs and have provided work wear to several Brothers and Sisters, providing them the opportunity to enter the workforce. I have attended Embers

on several occasions with Brothers and Sisters who were looking for part-time or casual work mainly in the construction field and have been impressed with the individualized support they provide each potential employee. Most recently I have developed a relationship with Paige (Occupational Health and Safety Coordinator for Embers) and Tim (Outreach and Reintegration) who have both been a wealth of information and support for our Brothers and Sisters. Many Brothers and Sisters have invested in their education through training such as First Aid, Fall Protection, TCP, H2S, TDG and Food Safe.

I have made it a priority to continue the relationships we have made with the Brothers and Sisters in our community who no longer reside with us or require regular support by checking in with them through call/text/email and will continue to check in even when I have not received contact back. We want to ensure that our support does not end after they move out of our houses or have accessed training. Several Brothers and Sisters have contacted me weeks and even months after working with us for additional support such as further training, resume development and career advice. Continuing these relationships can be challenging, but I have been able to maintain contact with most of the Brothers and Sisters we have worked with.

One of the greatest challenges this program faces is when I am no longer able to continue working with the Brothers and Sisters due to a return to custody or being unable to contact the person. However, when this does occur, I am available to support them in any way that I can when they are ready to return to work or access career training. Covid safety measures have been limiting to the program operation, but as we continue moving forward, we aspire to reopen a structured Circle of Healing K'emk'emelay Pre-Employment Program as soon as we can ensure the safety of all staff and Brothers and Sisters. It has been a great beginning to the year, and I look forward to the future with COELS and the K'emk'emelay Pre-Employment Program.



# Outreach department

by Sarah Thomas

I acknowledge that the land I work, live and play on is the unceded territory of the Coast Salish peoples, including the territories of the Səlilwətaʔ/Selilwitulh (Tsleil-Waututh), the xʷməθkʷəy̍əm (Musqueam), the Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish) and the Stó:lō Nations  
April 2021 to April 2022

Networking with community members that have donated clothes, household items and blankets. Cobbler's bench donated boxes of shoes, huge give away, during BBQ event. Covenant House has donated socks and hygiene products.

I believe in networking and collecting donations for the community. With no space to keep donations; it did not stop the determination to find donations and still give out to the homeless. People who are homeless were always happy for the items. Thankful for the new pair of socks. Shoes that didn't have holes on the bottom, new jacket to keep them warm.

Creating events – BBQ hot dog give away and clothing give aways happen when staff have planned a date and time. Did safety training to be alert and safe while giving out food. Set up was done with planning and safety. Everyone respected and went away happy, with full stomach and a smile.



Christmas –  
give away  
gifts for 50+  
families

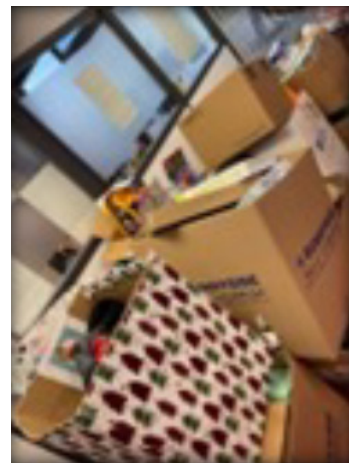
Clothing  
give-away  
on the  
DTES -  
collect  
warm  
clothing

BBQ – hot dog and chips and water.  
Feeding 300 people with freshly made  
hotdogs/chips/water. Had Ali from  
VATJSS come with a member who  
needed to complete community hours



## APRIL 1 2021 To MARCH 31 2022 we have:

Storage:	3
Bill/Utilities:	12
Rent arrears:	26
Housed/rent:	21
Emergency housing	17
Top ups	47
Hotel:	14
Damages	0
Damage Deposit	13
Furniture:	16
Move	6
Taxes:	350



**DONORS:** Through the outreach team and networking with the community to give away clothing, household items, bedding and shoes. Our major donors have been:

- Cobblers Bench,
- Covenant House,
- Greater Vancouver Food Bank
- BC Childrens
- community members

Through the four seasons, Spring, Fall, Winter and Summer. Donations come in and go out to the community in need.

During colder weather, give away hot oatmeal AND collected donations for the LYTTON BC residents affected by the fire. Staying at Camp in Chilliwack.



The greatest part of being a staff member of Circle of Eagles Lodge Society – Anderson Lodge, Naa na hamiyus Mens lodge has been meeting the staff that has been there for many years. Staff have created a family and created a great place to work.

Resource team staff have done training with HSABC and HR Training. Also, in house training – intake process, navigating through BC housing and filling out housing applications, creating renting resumes, getting people to finish Renting it right one and two. Find counseling and A&D supports. Supported housing applications, and VAT training. Finding SRO and rooming housing for Brothers and Sisters.

BC HOUSING: Hardest part has been Navigating through BC Housing to help find suitable housing for our brothers and Sisters. With hard work and determination, we will find a way to house them in clean, safe, and affordable units.

#### Income Taxes

This Year we have done over 350 taxes, have created a network with The Gathering Place at 609 Helmcken in Vancouver on Mondays from 1pm to 3:30 pm. Also, Wednesday at 2008 Wall Street for by appointments and virtual. Have gotten staff Crystal Roy trained to do taxes. So, there are two people able to do them.

#### Grants found for Outreach:

CVITP Grant - \$2000 to use towards office supplies for CVITP (Community Volunteer Income Tax Program) through Revenue Canada

YWCA – partnership with YWCA to help people with Utility Bills and Rent Arrears that can't find funding any where else.

In conclusion, Outreach Team has been created to work well with other programs in Circle of Eagles Lodge Society – Pre-employment program, Peer Support, Brothers lodge, and Sisters lodge. It is under one roof perspective and one stop location for all the needs of our Brothers and Sisters. We meet them where they are at and walk beside them to support them to find counselling, pre-employment and education. To encourage and empower people to sustain housing in Vancouver through our Medicine Wheel Case Management.





## Get your COVID-19 Vaccines and booster shots!

*"I got vaccinated to protect myself, my loved ones, my work and my community."*  
Craig



Get your booster shot



Wear a mask



Maintain physical distance



Stay home when sick



Feeling sick get a rapid test



**Circle of Eagles Lodge Society**

[www.coelsa.ca](http://www.coelsa.ca)

[facebook.com/coelodge](https://www.facebook.com/coelodge)



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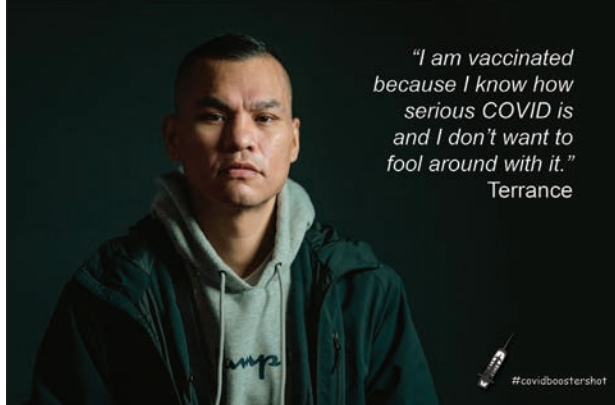
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A Circle of Eagles Lodge Society Production

# Circle of Eagles

## Soaring for 50 years



DIRECTED BY MERV THOMAS  
PRODUCED BY BARBARA ELLIS AND JASON Q LAWRENCE  
FILMED AND EDITED BY DARKO SIKMAN MUSIC BY THOMAS BECKMAN THEME SONG BY MARY GARNET EDWARDS  
IN ASSOCIATION WITH LOOK HEAR PRODUCTIONS

 [coels.ca/50thfilm](http://coels.ca/50thfilm)

## Circle of Eagles Soaring for 50 Years

### A Circle of Eagles Lodge Society Production

This film shares powerful, emotional stories of the impact of government policies, residential schools, foster care, poverty and systemic racism which has led to extremely high rates of incarceration of Indigenous people in Canada. "I have been in almost every federal prison across Canada, right to the SHU (Special Handling Unit) and I still have not found one institution that was as bad as I experienced in residential school." Said Ron Laprise. Devastatingly, many Indigenous children died in Canada's residential schools, and still, many who survived ended up in Canada's prisons. This film highlights that there is hope and healing in culture and a return to indigenous knowledge and ceremony.

**Directed by** Merv Thomas

**Produced by** Barbara Ellis and Jason Q Lawrence

**Filmed and Edited by** Darko Sikman

**Music by** Thomas Beckman

**Theme Song by** Mary Garnet Edwards

**In association with** Look Hear Productions

**Circle of Eagles Productions**

coels.ca/50thfilm



## Circle of Eagles Soaring for 50 Years Film Awards, Nominations, and Official Selections

### Awards

WorldFest - Houston International Film Festival  
**Award Winner, Best Short Documentary**  
(under 60 minutes)

Montreal Independent Film Festival  
**Award Winner, Best Feature Documentary**  
(Over 40 Minutes)

Vancouver Independent Film Festival  
**Award Winner, Best Feature Documentary**  
(Over 40 Minutes)

Silk Road Film Awards Cannes  
**'I Had A Dream'** by Mary Garnet Edwards  
(Circle of Eagles documentary film theme song)  
**Silk Road Award for Best Social Justice Music Video**

### Nominations

Lonely Wolf International Film Festival  
**Circle of Eagles - Nominee**

Cannes World Film Festival  
**I Had A Dream - Mary Garnet Edwards - Nominee**

Cannes World Film Festival  
**Circle of Eagles - Nominee**

### Official Selections

Kalakari Film Fest  
**Circle of Eagles**  
**Official Selection**

Garifuna International Indigenous Film Festival  
**I Had A Dream - Mary Garnet Edwards**  
**Official Selection**

Red Dirt Film Festival  
**Had A Dream - Mary Garnet Edwards**  
**Official Selection**

Dreamspeakers International Indigenous  
Film Festival  
**Circle of Eagles**  
**Official Selection**

Montreal Independent Film Festival  
**I Had A Dream - Mary Garnet Edwards**  
**Official Selection**

RNCI Red Nation International Film Festival &  
Awards - Native Cinema  
**Circle of Eagles**  
**Official Selection**

International Social Change Film Festival  
**Circle of Eagles**  
**Official Selection**

## Indigenous Community Actions Against COVID-19

*"I got vaccinated to  
protect myself, my  
loved ones, my work  
and my community."*  
Craig



**Reminder to get your COVID-19 Booster!**

Connecting  
Indigenous communities to  
informed vaccine choices



[www.coels.ca](http://www.coels.ca)  
Circle of Eagles Lodge Society

Visit our website for  
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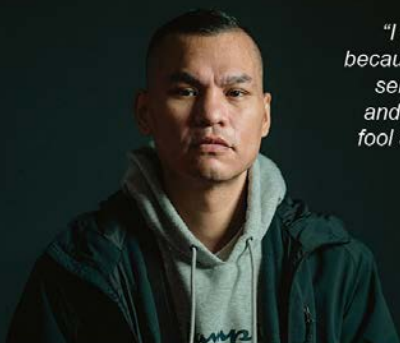


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**CIRCLE OF EAGLES LODGE SOCIETY**  
**CONSTITUTION and BY-LAWS**



# CONSTITUTION

## NAME OF SOCIETY

## CIRCLE OF EAGLES LODGE SOCIETY

## SOCIETY'S PURPOSES

1. The purposes of the Society are:

a) To develop and operate an Aboriginal Community Residential Facility/Training Centre in British Columbia for Aboriginal persons reintegrating into their communities.

b) To construct, hold, manage, provide and/or maintain housing for low and moderate income persons.

c) To support the development of other Aboriginal Community Residential Facilities/Training Centers throughout Canada, wherever the need arises; to maintain active liaison with all other centres; and to train staff members to support the development of other Aboriginal Community Residential Facilities/Training Centers.

d) To assist in resolving Aboriginal issues through traditional practices such as: Healing Circle Talks, Medicine Wheels, Native Cultural Awareness, Native Spirituality, Native Substance Abuse treatment, West Coast cultural teachings and Personal Development sessions.

e) To assist in providing Aboriginal People with training in leadership, management, and other areas of development required to advance their independence and self reliance. BC

## CIRCLE OF EAGLES LODGE SOCIETY BY-LAWS

### ARTICLE 1 – MEMBERSHIP

#### Section 1-1

The members of the Society are the successful applicants who have become members in accordance with these by-laws and those who have not ceased to be members.

(a) Any person of North American Aboriginal descent may apply to the Board for membership in the Society, and on acceptance by the Board of Directors and payment of the annual membership dues provided herein, shall be a member of the Society.

(b) Any person desiring to become a member or Associate member of the Society shall submit an application to the Secretary of the Board, in the form approved by the Board, along with payment of the annual membership dues.

#### Section 1-2

(a) Associate Membership shall be available to all persons of non- Aboriginal descent provided that person supports the purposes of the Society, on acceptance by the Board of Directors and payment of the annual membership dues.

(b) An Associate Member may vote or be a Director, and shall be entitled to attend meetings, speak at meetings, and receive information which is delivered to all other members.

(c) The number of Aboriginal members shall at all times exceed the number of Associate members of the Society.

### **Section 1-3**

(a) Honourary membership may be conferred by the members of the Society in attendance at any general meeting of the Society. Candidates for Honourary membership will be nominated by the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors. Honourary members will have voting privileges and shall be entitled to attend meetings, speak at meetings, and receive information that is delivered to all other members.

(b) Honourary members are not required to pay membership dues.

### **Section 1-4**

Membership in the Society ceases upon non-payment of annual dues and membership in the society may be cancelled for any breach of the Society's bylaws, or for cause, by the vote of more than sixty (60) percent of the membership present at any general meeting of the Society.

## **ARTICLE II – MEETINGS**

### **Section 2-1**

The Annual General Meeting of the Society shall be held at the time and place, in accordance with the Society Act, that the Directors decide.

(a) Notice of the Annual General Meeting must be in writing, delivered either by hand, by mail, by facsimile transmission, or by e-mail, at least fourteen (14) days before the meeting.

### **Section 2-2**

Special General Meetings of the Society may be called by the President when such special meetings in his/her opinion are deemed necessary, and shall be called by the President upon the demand of five (5) members of the Board of Directors or upon a petition signed by not less than ten (10) percent of the voting membership of the Society.

(a) Notice of Special General Meetings shall be given in the manner set out in Section 2-1 above by notifying the membership at least fourteen (14) days before the meeting.

### **Section 2-3**

A quorum at annual or general meetings will consist of a minimum of 1/3 of the voting members in good standing, but if a quorum is not achieved, the meeting shall be adjourned for one week to a place and time announced at the meeting. At the second meeting a quorum shall consist of those in attendance, provided there are a minimum of 3 voting members in good standing present.

### **Section 2-4**

The amount of annual dues for each succeeding year shall be determined at each annual general meeting of the Society. Until further changes, the annual fees shall be as follows:

(a) Members and Associate Members - \$5.00

(b) Honourary Members and Elders as defined by the Board – No Charge

## **Section 2-5**

Members of the Society may resign by giving one month's notice of resignation to the President of the Society.

## **ARTICLE III – BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS**

### **Section 3-1**

(a) The Board of Directors of the Society shall consist of a maximum of 12 (twelve) elected members with full voting privileges. Membership of the Board of Directors shall consist of at least two-thirds members of North American Aboriginal descent, and not more than one-third non-Aboriginal members.

(b) A Brother/Sister who will represent their population may be appointed to the Board of Directors by a majority vote of the Board of Directors.

(c) Any employee of the Society shall not be eligible for membership in the Society or election to the Board of Directors.

### **Section 3-2**

The following schedule indicates which Directorship becomes vacant at the Annual General Meeting at which directors are elected, using a staggered term in each calendar year, commencing 2001, up and including year 2010. After the year 2010, the same pattern established by this schedule shall be continued. The Director number refers to the ranking of the Directors based on the number of votes each Director receives at his or her election.

Year of Election Term of Office Directorship (12)

2001-2002 1 year 9, 10, 11, 12

2001-2003 2 years 5, 6, 7, 8

2001-2004 3 years 1, 2, 3, 4

2002-2003 1 year 9, 10, 11, 12 (election)

2003-2004 1 year 9, 10, 11, 12 (election)

2 years 5, 6, 7, 8 (election)

2004-2005 1 year 9, 10, 11, 12 (election)

3 years 1, 2, 3, 4 (election)

2005-2006 1 year 9, 10, 11, 12 (election)

2 years 5, 6, 7, 8 (election)

2006-2007 1 year 9, 10, 11, 12 (election)

2007-2008 1 year 9, 10, 11, 12 (election)

2 years 5, 6, 7, 8 (election)

3 years 1, 2, 3, 4 (election)

2008-2009 1 year 9, 10, 11, 12 (election)

2009-2010 Schedule continues

2010-2011 Schedule continues

### **Section 3-3**

It will be the responsibility of the Board of Directors to elect from among themselves the Executive members of the Board immediately following the Annual General Meeting.

### **Section 3-4**

Any member of the Board of Directors absent from two (2) consecutive Board meetings, without a valid reason acceptable to the Board, shall cease to be a member of the Board.

### **Section 3-5**

Vacancies occurring on the Board of Directors as a result of unfilled terms will be filled by a two-thirds vote of the remaining Directors of the Society.

### **Section 3-6**

A quorum of the Board shall be five (5).

(a) The minimum number of Directors with North American Aboriginal ancestry shall not be less than three (3).

### **Section 3-7**

Any member of the Board of Directors shall be deemed to have vacated his/her position if:

(a) He/she applies for employment with the Society;

(b) He/she applies or is currently participating in any of the programs or services offered by the Society, except in the case of the Brother/Sister who has been appointed by the Board;

(c) He/she is associated with any business or organization that contracts with the Society;

i. provided that a Society member shall not be required to vacate his/her office by reason of his/her being a shareholder or member of any business or organization which has entered into contract with, or does any work for the Society, provided he/she discloses that fact, but he/she shall not vote in respect of such contract or work, and if he/she votes, his/her vote shall not be counted; and

ii. provided further that, in accordance with Article 7 of the Constitution, members of the Board of Directors may receive due reimbursement from the Society for any out-of-pocket expenses they incur while engaged in activities on behalf of the Society and authorized by it.

### **Section 3-8 - DUTIES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

The duties of the Board of Directors shall be to manage the affairs of the Society, and without limiting the foregoing, the directors may:

(a) Name such standing and ad hoc committees as they consider necessary for the conduct of the Society's affairs from among the members of the Society.

(b) Develop and adopt policies governing all aspects of the Society, such as:

i. Staff employment;

ii. Board responsibilities; and

iii. Overall general Society matters.

(c) Advise the general membership of the Society and make recommendations for their consideration and actions.

#### **The duties of the Board of Directors shall also include:**

(d) Choosing the President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer of the Society as soon as possible after each Annual General Meeting of the Society;

(e) Having responsibility for managing the funds of the Society and for the raising of funds for the Society;

(f) Appointing the Chairman for each standing Committee from among themselves;

(g) Employing and discharging an Executive Director and determining his/her salary and terms and conditions of employment; and

(h) In the absence of an Executive Director, employing and discharging such staff members as they may deem necessary, and determining their number, remuneration, and other terms and conditions of employment, pursuant to the established personnel policies and procedures.

### **Section 3-9 - OFFICERS**

(a) The officers of the Society or the Executive Committee shall be the President, the Vice President, the Secretary and the Treasurer.

(b) Such officers shall be elected from among its members by the Board of Directors at its organizational meeting immediately following the Annual General Meeting.

(c) The immediate past President will be a member of the Executive Committee ex-officio if he/she holds a current membership in the Society.

(d) Any officer who resigns or leaves office for any other reason and is unable to complete his/her term of office may be replaced by a member appointed by a majority vote of the Board of Directors.

(e) Any officer shall be elected for a term of one (1) year, but not limited to one year.

### **Section 3-10 - DUTIES OF THE OFFICERS**

**(a) The President:**

- i. shall preside at all meetings of the Society, the Board and the Executive, and shall enforce the observance of the Constitution and by-laws, and shall be an ex-officio member of all committees other than the nomination committee, and shall exercise general care and superintendence of the affairs of the Society;
- ii. may be empowered to act as one of the signing officers.

**(b) The Vice-President**

- i. shall in the absence of the President perform the duties of the President, and when so acting he or she shall have the powers and be subject to all the responsibilities hereby given or imposed on the President;
- ii. may be empowered to act as one of the signing officers.

**(c) The Secretary**

- i. shall have charge of all the records and minutes of the Society and records of all the committees:
- ii. shall conduct or cause to be conducted the official correspondence of the Society;
- iii. may be empowered to act as one of the signing officers.

**(d) The Treasurer**

- i. shall be responsible for the proper keeping of the books of account and such other records as may be prescribed by law or as may be required by the Society;
- ii. have charge of, and render, the financial statements of the Society when required;
- iii. may be empowered to act as one of the signing officers.

### **Section 3-11 - DUTIES OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

**The Executive Director:**

- (a) shall preferably be of North American Aboriginal descent;
- (b) shall be responsible for the general direction of the affairs and operation of the Aboriginal Community Residential Facility and other programs and services as provided by the Society in accordance with the policies laid down by the Board of Directors;
- (c) shall be responsible to the Board of Directors for his/her administrative conduct; and
- (d) shall serve as an advisor to the Board of Directors, and under the Secretary of the Board shall keep the records of the Society, the Board and all the committees; but shall have no vote on the Board of Directors, or be a member thereof.

## **Section 3-12 - RESOLUTIONS**

A resolution in writing signed by all the Directors shall be valid and effectual as if it has been passed at meeting of the Directors duly called and constituted. Resolutions may be signed in counterpart, and an electronic or fax copy of a Director's signature shall be the same as an original.

## **ARTICLE IV – FUNDS**

### **Section 4-1**

All funds of the Society shall be deposited in the name of the Society at a financial institution selected by the Board of Directors.

### **Section 4-2**

In order to carry out the purposes of the Society the Directors may, on behalf of and in the name of the Society, borrow such funds as the Directors think desirable and secure the payment or re-payment of such borrowing by giving security, in whatever form the directors shall deem fit, over the funds, property, and assets of the Society, including, without limiting the generality of the foregoing, by the issuance of debentures.

### **Section 4-3**

The members may by special resolution restrict the borrowing powers of the Directors, but a restriction imposed expires at the next Annual General Meeting.

## **ARTICLE V – AUDITORS**

### **Section 5-1**

At the Annual General Meeting of the members of the Society, an Auditor or Auditors, who shall be a member or members of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of British Columbia, may be appointed to hold office until the next Annual General meeting of the Society.

## **ARTICLE VI – SEAL**

### **Section 6-1**

The Directors may provide for a seal for the Society, and the Directors shall have the power from time to time to destroy the seal and substitute a new seal in its place.

(a) The Directors shall provide for the safe custody of the seal of the Society, which shall not be affixed to any instrument except in the presence of:

- i. any two Directors;
- ii. the President and Secretary; or
- iii. such other person or persons as may be prescribed from time to time by resolution of the Directors.

(b) Such Directors, officers and persons shall sign every instrument to which the seal of the Society is affixed in their presence.

(c) A resolution of the Directors directing the general use of the seal may be passed at any time by the Directors, and shall apply to the use of the seal until countermanded by another resolution of the Directors.

## **ARTICLE VII – AMENDMENT OF BY-LAWS**

### **Section 7-1**

The Constitution and by-laws shall not be altered or added to except by a Special Resolution of the Society passed at a general or special meeting by seventy-five (75%) of the voting membership present.

## **ARTICLE VIII – NOTICE OF SPECIAL RESOLUTION**

### **Section 8-1**

Notice to propose a Special Resolution shall be deemed to be duly given if signed by a proposer and a seconder, who shall be voting members of the Society in good standing, and delivered to the Secretary, that the Secretary has delivered to the membership of the Society not less than 14 (fourteen) days before the General or Special Meeting.

## **ARTICLE IX – DISSOLUTION**

### **Section 9-1**

Dissolution of the Society may only be decided by a Special Resolution of the Society.

### **Section 9-2**

In the event of dissolution, any property or assets remaining shall be distributed to such charitable organizations as directed by Special Resolution of the Society.

## **ARTICLE X – RULES OF ORDER**

### **Section 10-1**

Roberts Rule of Order shall be the parliamentary authority for matters of procedure not specifically covered by these by-laws.

## **ARTICLE XI – MISCELLANEOUS**

### **Section 11-1**

The Society shall be a non-profit organization.

### **Section 11-2**

The operations of the Society are to be carried out in the Province of British Columbia. This clause was previously unalterable.

### **Section 11-3**

All gaming monies, or assets purchased with gaming monies, held at the date of winding up or dissolution of the Society, shall be distributed to such charitable Aboriginal organization or organizations in British Columbia having similar charitable purposes, as directed by the members by Special Resolution. This clause was previously unalterable.

### **Section 11-4**

Upon winding-up or dissolution of the Society, all assets other than those gaming monies or assets purchased with gaming monies addressed in Section 5 remaining after the payment of all costs, charges and expenses incurred in the winding-up, including the remuneration of a liquidator, and after payment to employees of the Society of any arrears of salary or wages, and after payment of any other debts of the Society, shall be distributed to such charitable Aboriginal organization or organizations in British Columbia as directed by the membership by Special Resolution. This clause was previously unalterable.

### **Section 11-5**

The members of the Board of Director's shall serve without remuneration, and the Directors shall not receive, directly or indirectly, any profits from their position as Directors, but may be paid reasonable expenses incurred by them in the performance of their duties as Directors. This clause was previously unalterable.

### **Section 11-6**

The Society is constituted exclusively for charitable purposes and must not distribute any gain, profit or dividend, or otherwise dispose of its assets to a member of the Society, without receiving full and valuable consideration, and any profits or other accretions to the Society shall be used for promoting its purposes. This clause was previously unalterable.



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