



2015 ANNUAL REPORT

YWCA METRO VANCOUVER

**CHANGING LIVES**  
FOR 118 YEARS.



# Message from the Chair and CEO

In 2015, YWCA Metro Vancouver experienced considerable growth, enabling us to increase our reach to support women and their families, and to advocate for systemic changes that impact all levels of society.

The expansion of the Strive program enabled us to better assist youth transitioning out of foster care during a challenging time in their lives. Youth in government care have often experienced trauma in childhood and lack family and peer support networks. Once out of foster care, these youth have limited access to education, higher rates of unemployment and are more likely to experience poor mental health outcomes.

Strive helps participants successfully move into their adult lives by supporting them to attain important life and job skills.

We made significant progress on our vision to increase housing for low-income single mothers and their children. Last fall, we were pleased to complete the \$10.1-million capital campaign for YWCA Cause We Care House, a 21-unit long-term housing community in the Downtown Eastside / Strathcona area. This innovative project will be located above a new branch of the Vancouver Public Library, set to open its doors in fall 2016.

There are three new housing developments underway: YWCA Como Lake Mews in Coquitlam, the YWCA Fire Hall project in South

Vancouver and YWCA CentreView, a long-term housing project in North Vancouver. In addition to the seven existing YWCA housing communities, these projects will provide much-needed, safe, affordable housing for low-income single mothers and their families and support them in achieving economic independence.

We also gained momentum in our advocacy against the sexualization of women and girls and the corresponding hypermasculinization of men and boys. In the past year, we launched two exciting new projects that will take our work even further:

- YWCA Strong Girls, Strong World empowers youth to be change-makers in their communities, with a special focus on media literacy.
- Culture Shift combats sexualization by engaging decision makers, educators, youth and community. Support from Status of Women Canada enabled us to create this three-year project.

These two initiatives complement each other: one takes a grassroots approach by empowering youth through skill building and dialogue. The other will engage leaders from all sectors to examine opportunities for systemic change.

The YWCA has a long history of supporting Indigenous peoples with culturally appropriate services at Crabtree Corner and the Indigenous



Mentorship Program. In June 2015, the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) released its findings along with 94 recommendations for reforms and investment from all in transforming the lives of Indigenous peoples and their relationship with Canada. Moving forward, YWCA Metro Vancouver will continue to embrace opportunities that realize the TRC's recommendations and the full engagement of Indigenous peoples at all levels of society.

As always, we would not be able to serve the communities we do without our dedicated supporters. Without you, we could not provide valuable services and critical supports for women and their families. Thank you for helping us to build hope for the future!

Sincerely,

**Debbie Nagle**  
Chair

**Janet Austin**  
CEO

## WHO WE ARE

**YWCA METRO VANCOUVER'S VISION IS TO ACHIEVE WOMEN'S EQUALITY.**

Our mission is to touch lives and build better futures for women and their families through advocacy and integrated services that foster economic independence, wellness and equal opportunities.

YWCA Metro Vancouver is a volunteer- and membership-based organization that is part of the global YWCA network.

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# CHANGING LIVES SINCE 1897

The YWCA has been a catalyst for change ever since we opened our doors 118 years ago to provide housing and services to women coming to the city in search of education or employment.

From the beginning, we took an integrated approach to meeting community needs. Today, the YWCA continues to expand its spectrum of programs and services — and open doors for women, children, men and youth across Metro Vancouver.

A photograph of a woman with long dark hair sitting at a table in a community center. She is looking down at something on the table. In the background, there are other people and a wall covered with many colorful sticky notes and papers.

“The YWCA is an amazing organization helping single mothers and children. They planted the seeds into my heart so that I could grow and prosper. **They believed in me, so now I believe in myself.**”

– YWCA Crabtree Corner Housing resident



# YEAR IN REVIEW

In 2015, donors like you helped change lives for **41,739 clients and program participants**.

Together, we were able to provide **45 programs and services** offered in **58 locations** throughout Metro Vancouver.



## HEALTHY CHOICES FOR YOUTH

**579 youth and teens** participated in our youth programs



## BEST START FOR CHILDREN

**362 children** received quality early learning and child care



“Many youth growing up in care feel like they don’t have obligations or priorities. Strive was a place youth wanted to be. Many of us left with full bellies and knew people who cared.”

*- Desiree, participant of Strive - a life skills and employment program for youth transitioning out of foster care.*



## OPPORTUNITIES FOR EDUCATION AND WORK

**4,928 women, men and youth** accessed our employment services and mentorship programs



## HEALTHY, ACTIVE LIVING

**26,160 plates of food** were served at Crabtree Corner in the Downtown Eastside



## A SUSTAINABLE YWCA

**11,734** visits to the YWCA Health + Fitness Centre  
**22,977** guests stayed the YWCA Hotel/Residence



“Everyone at FOCUS - not only the all-star staff but also my peers, women from other cohorts and guest speakers — helped me get through challenges and difficult times I was facing.”

*- Yurie, participant of FOCUS@Work - a free job search program for women looking to return to the workforce.*



### SAFE, AFFORDABLE HOUSING

**475 low-income single mothers and children** made their home in one of our seven housing communities



### FREEDOM FROM VIOLENCE

**151 women** accessed our violence prevention program



### SUPPORT FOR FAMILIES

**541 single mothers and children** took part in our Single Mothers' Support Groups

“The YWCA Single Mothers' Program encouraged me when I was at the lowest point in my life. The facilitators helped inspire me to pursue my career dreams. The YWCA has made a difference in my life, and in the lives of my children.”

*- Nicole, Single Mothers' Support Services participant*



## NEW PROGRAMS

### BEING ME

An after-school program for Grade 7 girls in Surrey, with a focus on mental health and well-being.

### STRONG GIRLS, STRONG WORLD

An advocacy project to empower young women to become change agents in their local communities.

### SKILLS MAX FOR YOUTH

A youth employment and training program in the hospitality and warehousing industries.

### CHANGING GEARS

A training program for women to find work in the transport trucking industry.

### SEEDS OF INDEPENDENCE

An outreach program providing mobile support to women who have left abusive relationships.

### CULTURE SHIFT PROJECT

A multi-sectoral approach to address the sexualization of young girls.

### FINANCIAL LITERACY AND PEER MENTORSHIP AT CRABTREE CORNER

A program to help low-income single mothers make sustainable financial decisions for their futures.

# 2015 FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

YWCA Metro Vancouver's ongoing impact in the community is made possible by our proven financial stability. The YWCA continues to grow its reserves while diversifying its funding to maintain its strong financial base.

## Balance Sheet as at December 31, 2015

### ASSETS

Cash and Cash Equivalents	6,824,477
Short-term Investments	1,189,833
Accounts Receivable	2,135,778
Inventory and Prepaids	244,796
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>10,394,884</b>
Restricted Investments	2,183,119
Long-term Investments	3,682,937
Property and Equipment	26,955,342
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>43,216,282</b>

### LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES

Accounts Payable and Accrued Liabilities	3,027,509
Deferred Revenue	1,641,379
Current Portion of Capital Leases Payable	39,238
Current Portion of Mortgages Payable	192,826
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>4,900,952</b>
Capital Leases Payable	75,479
Mortgages Payable	5,423,496
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>10,399,927</b>
Fund Balances	32,816,355
<b>Total Liabilities and Fund Balances</b>	<b>43,216,282</b>

Fund Balances allocated to:

Unrestricted	616,137
BC Housing Replacement Reserve	819,229
Board Designated Endowment Fund	2,139,000
Board Designated Capital Repair and Replacement Reserve	2,203,036
Board Designated Legacy Fund	385,270
Board Designated Employment Program Fund	1,300,000
Capital Fund	23,989,793
Donor Designated Endowment Fund	1,363,890
<b>Total Fund Balances</b>	<b>32,816,355</b>

## Statement of Revenue and Expenses for the year ended December 31, 2015

### REVENUE (Operating and Capital)

Government Contracted Programs	13,078,652
Fund Development	6,231,173
Hotel/Residence	3,869,906
Health + Fitness	2,686,812
Early Learning and Child Care Centres	1,602,959
Other Revenue	875,699
Events	522,810
Investment Revenue	432,472
<b>Total</b>	<b>29,300,483</b>

Fund Development revenue includes the following:

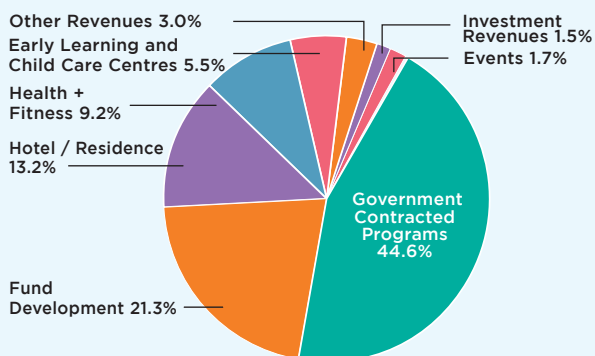
Donations	5,070,728
Government Grants	1,108,445
Gaming	52,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,231,173</b>

### EXPENSES BY PROGRAM AREA\*

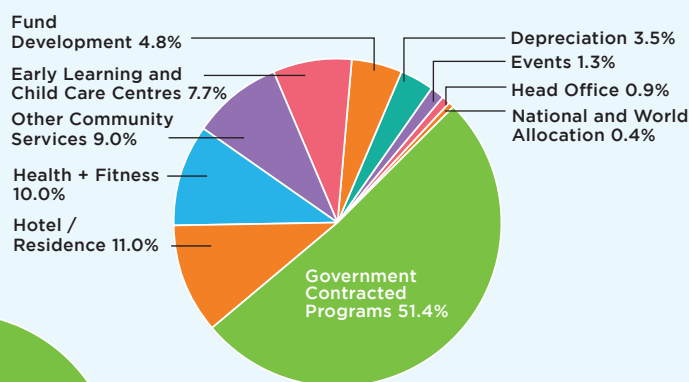
\*Expenses by program area include allocations from head office of common administrative and support costs.

Government Contracted Programs	13,426,333
Hotel/Residence	2,849,601
Health + Fitness	2,611,569
Other Community Services	2,353,893
Early Learning and Child Care Centres	2,022,942
Fund Development	1,242,049
Depreciation	911,083
Events	349,834
Head Office	228,258
National and World Allocation	111,985
<b>Total</b>	<b>26,107,547</b>

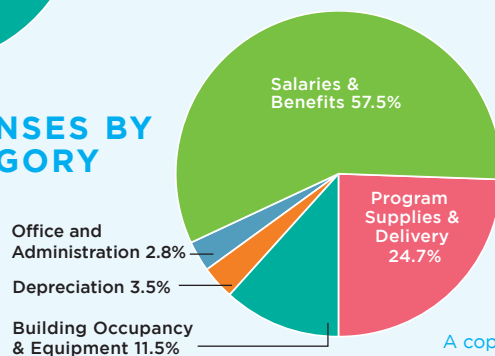
## REVENUE



## EXPENSES BY PROGRAM AREA



## EXPENSES BY CATEGORY



A copy of the 2015 audited financial statements is available upon request.



# OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS, DONORS AND SOCIAL ENTERPRISE SUPPORTERS

ignite the spark that helps YWCA participants build their futures.

## **Join the YWCA Health + Fitness Centre or stay at the YWCA Hotel/Residence**

All proceeds and membership fees help fund our programs.

## **Celebrate Women of Distinction**

65 exceptional women and three innovative workplaces were honoured at the 32nd annual YWCA Women of Distinction Awards.

## **Volunteer**

756 individuals and 46 corporate groups volunteered more than 23,791 hours in 2015.

## **Donate**

Financial, bequest or in-kind gifts ensure that we can continue to help low-income single mothers and their families.





# THANK YOU

# WITH YOUR HELP, THE YWCA TOUCHED LIVES CLOSE TO 42,000 TIMES THROUGHOUT METRO VANCOUVER.

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**VISIONARY  
(\$50,000+/3 YEARS)**

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