

Love Anything

Leave Out Violence (LOVE) Society BC

Annual Report

04/2018-03/2019

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- | | |
|--|--|
| > 2 Message from the Chair | > 10 Programming Statistics |
| > 3 Message from the Executive Director | > 11 Message from the Fundraising Committee |
| > 4 Programming | > 12 Financials |
| > 8 Highlights & Events | > 13 Supporters |

LOVE'S MISSION

LOVE supports youth to thrive through programs and healthy relationships that build emotional intelligence and help overcome the challenges they face. Our participants emerge from LOVE's programs with greater resilience, heightened skills, and the confidence to be inspirational leaders.

LOVE'S LENS

We use a broad youth-driven definition of violence, which allows for issues such as cyber-bullying (cyber-violence), physical, sexual and emotional violence, marginalization, as well as racism, sexism, homophobia and all other forms of intentional exclusion, to be included in our conversations about violence.

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

As we get ready to celebrate the 20th anniversary year of LOVE BC, we're also celebrating the year that's past and all that our organization – and our young people – have accomplished.

Here are few of our memorable moments reflecting the theme of this year's annual report: love is greater than.

STORYTELLING > A SNOWSTORM

On a snowy day in February, our board, youth and staff collaborated on our first-ever storytelling event and fundraiser. LOVE youth including Vera and Debanhi shared heartfelt stories alongside Vancouver celebrity storytellers Charlie Demers, Ryan Knighton and Anita Cheung, who all donated their time. Thank you to everyone who braved the weather to support the event; to our MCs, Paris and Cady; to all our volunteers; and to Stephen Quinn and the CBC for featuring us on the Early Edition.

INNOVATION > STAGNATION

Late last year, LOVE launched a new brand across the country, and this year we brought it to life. Our board, staff and youth had a lot of fun iterating on the brand and themes through a new website, swag, events, and in this annual report.

SO LONG > GOODBYE

This year, we bid farewell to team members Omar, DE, Tanvi and Golsa. We offer our deep thanks for their service. We are especially grateful for the lasting impact they've had on our programming and our youth.

TOGETHER > ON OUR OWN

Of course, you – our supporters – are at the heart of all we accomplish here. We're inspired by all you do for LOVE, and together, we're proving that it's greater than anything.

Thank you,

Heather Stoutenburg
Chair, Board of Directors
LOVE BC



MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

LOVE BC in 2018-2019 had a remarkable year.

In collaboration with the other regions (LOVE Québec taking the lead) we developed a new brand for the organization. Ig2 worked diligently to help us establish a common mission, look and new brand. With great enthusiasm we launched our new look nationally.

We had a successful year providing MAP (Media Arts Programs) in Surrey, Burnaby and East Vancouver. Our youth participants explored art and digital arts media as they vulnerably expressed their experiences of violence; which for LOVE includes experiences of racism, homophobia, classism etc., challenging social norms with messages of inclusion.

This year we launched our full year MAP program at Van Tech after a successful pilot of the program last year.

“Love helped me find my voice. I am shy, now I am able to tell my story and feel safe. Painting and writing has given me tools I never knew I could use to share my feelings” -MAP youth, 16 years old

Through the generous support of our founders, LOVE was able to implement a number of supportive and complementary programs for our youth, such as the Y-PINK (anti-bullying), SMYLE (employment readiness and life skills), and SM-ART (art therapy) to name a few.

With the encouragement of a talented and committed staff team, LOVE BC youth demonstrated their leadership skills by co-facilitating over 20 workshops to partner agencies and various youth groups across the Lower Mainland. They created portfolios, resumes, and collaborative and independent art pieces for themselves and for our annual art show supported by the grunt gallery. They truly expressed their passion and dedication as they took personal and group risks to share messages of their experiences.

LOVE BC youth demonstrated their resilience throughout the year as they challenged themselves, and their peers to express their full authentic selves. Whether it was to share a poem, a story or their art, they have taught us that **LOVE is greater than anything.**

As we move forward into our 20th year of programming, LOVE BC continues to respond to the needs of our youth in our community. We are collaborating on a number of projects with partner agencies and exploring how to better ensure our youths' voices are included in every aspect of our organization. We are excited to continue to evolve and to be **greater than.....**

Lambrini Soulos
Executive Director

MEDIA ARTS PROGRAM

MAP is a free after-school program offering youth aged 13-18 a chance to create through artistic mediums such as photography, film and writing. Youth use art as a way to explore anti-violence and social justice issues affecting them and their communities. The Media Arts Program was held in Burnaby, Surrey and Vancouver.

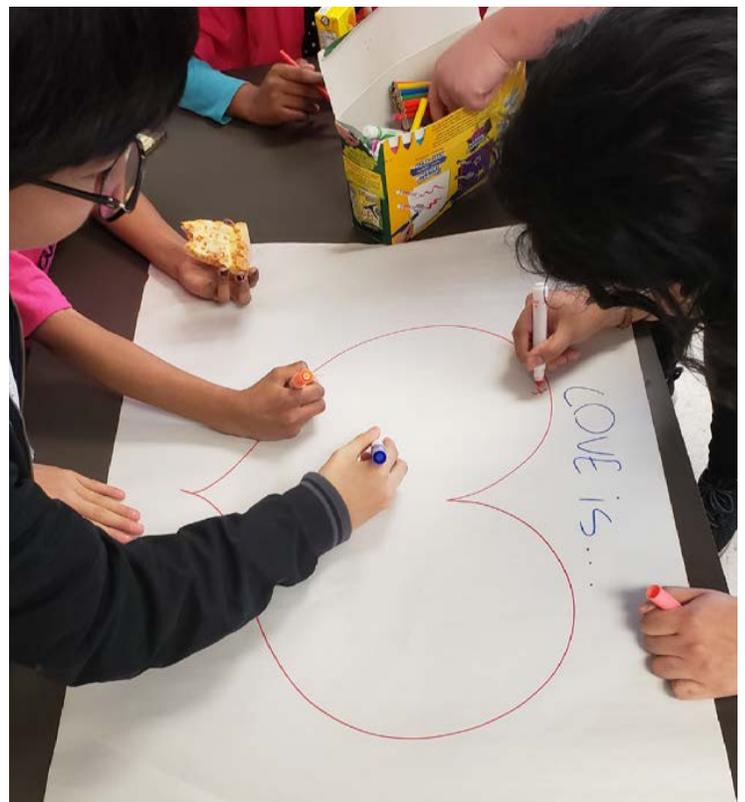
MAP BURNABY

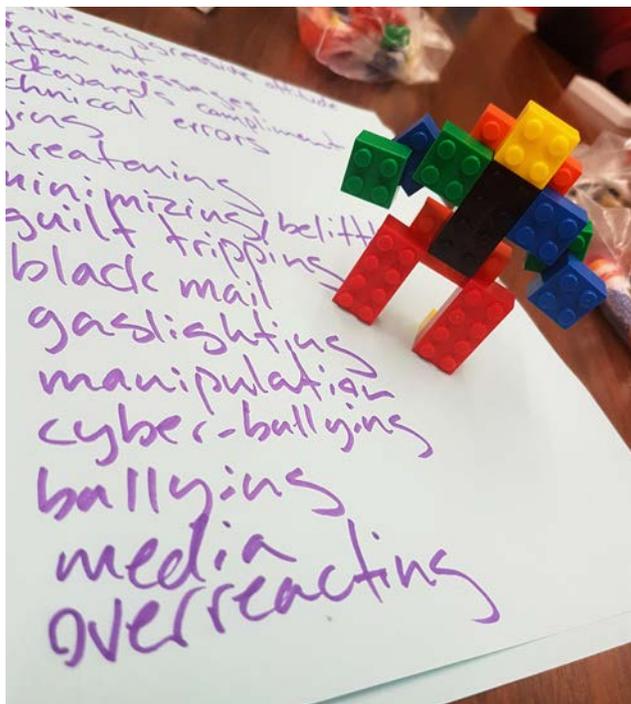
MAP Burnaby, youth participants covered topics like self awareness, healthy boundaries and relationships, anti-violence, anti-oppression and self care, among others. The youth, brought with them varied life experiences and a wealth of knowledge, and were able to engage with the material in ways that fostered mutual learning. It wasn't just the facilitators teaching, but rather a knowledge exchange between facilitators and youth, as well as peer to peer. There were frank discussions about race and gender and sexuality, linking personal experiences to larger systems of oppression and strategizing ways to make improvements in their communities. Youth used art to express our feelings and ideas, and to explore topics in a variety of different ways beyond discussion.

Some of the most memorable conversations happened over open studio, when youth were given time and materials to make art in whatever medium they chose. They collaborated on massive group art pieces that represented the topics they felt most passionate about, and expressed their individual creativity through pieces that were included in LOVE's art show at grunt gallery. From self-portraits to intricate landscapes, to memes and gifs, the youth produced an expansive amount of work in a variety of mediums. Their most meaningful learning moments happened over creativity and laughter.

"My favourite thing about LOVE is talking about LGBTQ issues and what each represents. I was able to learn about myself more from this."

-MAP Burnaby Youth





"I love the community that we build together and that we all grow together."

-Paris, Leadership Youth

MAP VANCOUVER

MAP Vancouver completed its first full year of programming. Last year LOVE BC held a 14 week pilot program of MAP at the school, which was highly successful.

At Van Tech, MAP participants engaged in many conversations about personal identity, anti-oppression, anti-violence and social justice issues.

The youth had many fun moments exploring these topics as the concepts were familiar to the youth and they enjoyed sharing personal experiences relevant to each day's theme. Youth were offered support and encouraged to participate. Food and snacks were provided during each session, as youth explored art making, writing and digital art making.

Thank you to the support of our facilitators and Van Tech's administrators for encouraging youth to grow and learn in the MAP program.

Y-PINK

In the Young People Investing in Kindness program, youth identified bullying in their schools and communities and explored its root causes. Youth, through art media and discussions, addressed and explored ways to solve this problem. Youth participants created personalized anti-bullying t-shirts to celebrate and build awareness for Pink Shirt Day.

SMYLE

Social Media Youth Leaders Empowered is a program that works with youth facing multiple barriers to help identify, explore and find solutions to employment. In all 3 MAP and Leadership locations, youth were provided with media arts, leadership, and life skills training, along with access to job training opportunities that allowed participants to put their new-found skills to work. Youth developed their resumes, art portfolios, learned about budgeting, interviewing and employment searches.

MAP SURREY

This was a year of growth for MAP Surrey. The youth were able to break out of their comfort zones and have conversations about difficult topics, as well as form connections with their peers. They were passionate about photography and other media-based skills and always looking to learn more, and they were able to generate meaningful and complex discussions about topics such as anti-violence, mental health, and gender and sexuality. Whether through group doodles or conversations, the youth worked well together and were able to build off each other's ideas and meaningfully collaborate with one another.

This year, the youth were able to take a trip to Surrey Art Gallery, where they go to interact with a number of art exhibits that incorporated different mediums. Though the youth were enthusiastic about painting and doodling, their favourite art medium was photography, and we spent many sessions working with cameras and using photography and video as tools to explore complex issues.

By the end of the year, the youth were comfortable taking the lead on doing land acknowledgements at the beginning of every session, able to be open and honest with the facilitators and their peers, had a stronger understanding of how to talk about certain issues we discussed, and were confident in their artistic skills and abilities.

> 6

*"I come to LOVE because
they're my family."*

-Leadership Youth



LEADERSHIP

Leadership Program is a free after-school program for youth who wish to grow their leadership, facilitation and artistic skills. Youth leaders are provided with opportunities to facilitate workshops, lead discussions and participate in public speaking events.



BYRC ART DROP-IN

LOVE runs art drop-in sessions in collaboration with Broadway Youth Resource Centre. This year, it was held every Wednesday from 4 - 7 pm and co-facilitated by Meaghan, Cat and Lambrini. The sessions were centered around exploring various art mediums including tapestry, acrylic and watercolours. The pieces created by youth were featured in this year's art show at the grunt gallery.

OUTREACH

LOVE 's key outreach activities are workshops facilitated by LOVE youth and staff and hosted in community spaces. The workshops are customized specifically for each group. This year, LOVE BC held 20 workshops with 1600 attendees.

BEATS MAGAZINE

BEATS magazine is a publication by and for immigrant and refugee youth in the Lower Mainland. BEATS youth run every aspect of the publication including editing, writing and decision making.



May 4 - 6 2018

BC LEADERSHIP CAMP

Our annual weekend retreat at Camp Potlatch brought together youth from LOVE's Leadership and Media Arts Programs. LOVE youth made new friends, connected with nature, and discussed values and equity. Youth from our Leadership program practiced their facilitation skills during the discussions.

May 29 - June 2 2018

DISCOVERY: YOUTH ART EXHIBITION

LOVE BC partnered with grunt gallery and the Broadway Youth Resource Centre to host *Discovery*, a youth art exhibition where artists shared our discoveries from the previous year. We explored a wide variety of artistic mediums and discovered art in our environments, our imaginations and within ourselves. On May 31st, we celebrated the exhibition with food and an open mic session.

June 9 2018

GRADUATION

Graduates of the Leadership and Media Arts Programs celebrated their accomplishments with food, an art display, and graduate-designed buttons. All graduates received gifts as a thank you for their involvement and commitment throughout the year.

June 17 2018

MAIN ST CAR FREE DAY

LOVE BC partnered with Check Your Head to engage with community members, facilitate arts activities for the community, and make buttons.

July 8 2018

BEATS MAGAZINE ISSUE 12 LAUNCH

BEATS magazine launched our twelfth issue starting off with a discussion of World Refugee Day and continuing on to explore identity, community, sense of belonging, education and feminism.



August 12 - 17 2018

NATIONAL LEADERSHIP CAMP

National Camp brought together LOVE Youth Leaders from across the country to *Camp Kinkora* in Quebec. The camp provided an opportunity to learn from each other, collaborate on new projects, and to participate in traditional camp activities.

September 17 2018

AGM AND VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION PARTY

Leave Out Violence (LOVE) Society BC members exercised their voting rights at our Annual General Meeting before we celebrated our generous volunteers.



September 19 2018

BEATS MAGAZINE ISSUE 13 LAUNCH

BEATS Issue 13 is filled with stories of migration with a flavour of each editor's personal passions. We have many styles of art from comics to painting, from photography to storytelling illustrating the many skills of our editors.



December 11 2018

WINTERFEST

Leave Out Violence supported the Broadway Youth Resource Centre's annual Winterfest, helping out in the kitchen and accompanying youth from all our Leadership and Media Arts programs to join the celebrations.



February 12 2019

LOVE IS GREATER THAN: AN EVENING IN SUPPORT OF YOUTH

At the intimate Cinematheque theatre, diverse group of youth storytellers and members of Vancouver's creative community shared their tales about the transformative power of love. A special thank you to those who braved the weather and filled the room with love and laughter despite the snow.



February 14 2019

ANNUAL WOMEN'S MEMORIAL MARCH FOR MURDERED AND MISSING WOMEN

LOVE youth marched in the 28th Annual Women's Memorial March, which honours the memory of all women from the Downtown Eastside who have died due to physical, mental, emotional and spiritual violence.

February 20-24 2019

QUEBEC CITY SOCIAL ART FORUM

Youth and staff from LOVE travelled to the Musée National des Beaux-Arts du Québec in Québec City to participate in 2 day forum on "Social Art" with the focus on youth homelessness hosted by the Jacques-Cartier Centre. Our youth at LOVE BC facilitated a workshop on "Community building" which reflected some of the core values of LOVE. The youth shared what LOVE meant to them and also held space for the participants to engage with each other to discuss what defines community.

February 27 2019

PINK SHIRT DAY

On Pink Shirt Day, the LOVE BC Team made wearable art and then hit the streets to raise their voices against homophobia, transphobia, and systematic oppression.

March 21 2019

BEATS MAGAZINE ISSUE 14 LAUNCH

We celebrated, Nowruz and the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination with a special edition of BEATS with an all-queer migrant editorial team. This issue explores the realities of being an LGBTQ+ member in Canada in addition to being a newcomer in this country.

> 10

LOVE BC STATS



90%

OF LOVE YOUTH YOUTH IDENTIFIED
A GREATER KNOWLEDGE OF HOW
VIOLENCE AFFECTS THE COMMUNITY.

86%

OF LOVE YOUTH FEEL LOVE BC GAVE
THEM THE TOOLS TO RESPOND TO
THE VIOLENCE, DISCRIMINATION
AND BULLYING THAT THEY SEE.

96%

OF LOVE YOUTH FEEL
SUPPORTED TO BE CREATIVE.

91%

OF LOVE YOUTH SAID THEY CAN TALK
TO AND TRUST LOVE STAFF ABOUT
THEIR WORRIES OR CONCERNS.

90%

OF LOVE YOUTH SAID THEY GAINED
A GREATER UNDERSTANDING OF THE
LINK BETWEEN RACISM, TRANSPHOBIA,
DISCRIMINATION AND VIOLENCE.

MESSAGE FROM THE FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE

> 11

The LOVE BC board and fundraising committee is grateful for the continued support of the generous corporations, foundations and individuals who see the impact of LOVE BC's arts and leadership programming on the lives of our youth.

This year, with a renewed focus on individual giving, the fundraising committee held LOVE BC's first ever storytelling event themed "LOVE – it's greater than just about anything". Held just a few days before Valentines Day, the event showcased a diverse group of LOVE BC youth storytellers and members of



Vancouver's creative community who shared personal stories about the transformative power of love. Artwork by LOVE BC youth was also showcased and sold at this event.



Despite a significant snowfall blanketing roads on the night of the event, the event was a resounding success. Thanks to youth, volunteers, staff, speakers and our guests, we were able to meet our fundraising goal for this evening. We would also like to acknowledge the valuable contributions from those who supported the event by buying tickets for youth or donating. In addition, the event served to spark the hearts of the attendees. We shared the mission of LOVE BC and provided an inspiring opportunity for youth. We look forward to repeating the magic next year.



This year we experienced firsthand that LOVE is greater than anything through our fundraising activities. Each donation strengthens our ability to reach young people who've experienced discrimination and violence to harness the power of creativity to tell, and if they choose, alter their story.



Thank you again to our many donors who through their support make a big difference in the lives of our youth and help us to continue to have a positive impact on young people in Greater Vancouver.

Fundraising Committee

REVENUES (\$241,244)

GOVERNMENT GRANTS (45.92%)

BUSINESS & CORPORATIONS (30.37%)

PUBLIC FOUNDATIONS (16.90%)

FUNDRAISING EVENTS (4.57%)

DONATIONS BY INDIVIDUALS (2.19%)

SERVICES TO OTHER ORGANIZATIONS (0.05%)

LEAVE OUT VIOLENCE (LOVE) SOCIETY BC

Balance Sheet

March 31

	2019
Assets	
Current	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 178,123
Accounts Receivable	14,987
GST Receivable	927
Prepaid expenses and deposit	3,320
	197,357
Equipment	423
	\$ 197,780
Liabilities	
Current	
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 4,096
Deferred contributions	67,500
	71,596
Net Assets	
Invested in Equipment	423
Internally Restricted Contingency Reserve	58,934
Unrestricted	66,827
	126,184
	\$ 197,780

EXPENSES (\$236,084)

LEADERSHIP (22.41%)

MAP VANCOUVER (17.93%)

MAP SURREY (17.93%)

MAP BURNABY (17.93%)

OUTREACH (13.45%)

ADMINISTRATIVE (7.97%)

FUNDRAISING (2.37%)



GOVERNMENT

BC Gaming Fund
Canada Summer Jobs
City of Surrey
City of Vancouver
Heritage Canada

CORPORATE

CKNW Kids' Fund
Coast Capital Savings Credit Union
TELUS Friendly Future Foundation
Urban Systems Foundation

FOUNDATIONS AND CHARITABLE ORGANIZATIONS

Connor, Clark & Lunn Foundation
Face the World Foundation
Provincial Employees Community Services Fund
Jacob and Sandra Silberberg Family Fund
SurreyCares Community Foundation
Zacks Family Charitable Foundation

GIFTS OF LOVE IN-KIND

Broadway Youth Resource Centre
Fight With A Stick - Josh Hite
I See Me with Justine & Jennifer
lg2
Vancouver Canucks
Vancouver Queer Film Festival

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Aunt Leah's Place
Broadway Youth Resource Centre
Byrne Creek Secondary School
Car Free Day on Main Street
Cedar Cottage Neighbourhood House
Check Your Head
Collingwood Neighbourhood House
Foundation Alternative
grunt gallery
Kwantlen Park Secondary School
Kwantlen Polytechnic University
Meet Me at the Lamp(p)ost - Laura and Tara
Pathways to Education
Richmond Addictions Services Society
Richmond Centre Community Centre
STEP to Work - BC Housing
Urban Native Youth Association
Vancouver Coastal Health
Vancouver Technical Secondary School

Thank you to all our generous individual donors!

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Heather Stoutenburg
Lyla Hunter
Pej Mahlooji
Jessica Allen
Tracy Rawa
Gagan Diesh
Elaine Zitner
Stevie Nguyen
Laura Froese
Paris (Youth Rep)
Cadyn (Youth Rep)

CORE VOLUNTEERS

Alyssa Angeles
Catherine Hart
Dvora Silverman
Marielle Beth Rosky
Nelli Agbulos
Patrick To

STAFF

Lambrini Soulos, Executive Director
Da Eun Chung, Program Director
Golsa Golestaneh, Program Facilitator and
BEATS Magazine Creative Coordinator
Tanvi Bhatia, Program Facilitator
Omar Chu, Office Coordinator
Kat Gilliat, Alumni Co-Facilitator
Marcey Amaya, Photography Facilitator
Cadyn Henrickson, Summer Student Position

Greater
than
anything

LOVE