

Annual Report

2021 - 2022



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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 Lense

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, racism, sexism, homophobia, and all other forms of intentional exclusion, to be included in our conversations about violence.

LOVE BC is grateful to be able to live, work, and play on the unceded territories of the Coast Salish, Musqweum, Squamish, and Tslei-Waututh Nations.



Message from the Chair

the Chair

2021/2022 was another year of ups and downs and starts and stops. But thanks to the strength and resilience (and LOVE!) shown by our supporters, youth and staff, we were able to build many bridges as we returned to in-person programming and re-connected with schools and partners in the community.

Despite the shadow of the pandemic, there are many good-news stories to celebrate this year. We once again ran programming in Surrey, Burnaby and Vancouver, as well as online. We welcomed youth back into the space for monthly art jams. And thanks to your support, we were able to resume the tradition of LOVE camp and brought 15 youth to Camp Potlatch in June for a weekend of rock climbing, swimming, canoeing and archery. We were also able to hold an in-person graduation again.

Of course, none of this work would have been possible without our advocates, donors and volunteers. Thank you.

The pandemic disruption did have some upsides – it provided an opportunity to get creative and evolve our programs to meet the needs of the youth we serve (something we've always excelled at). We bridged the gap between in-person and virtual, experimenting with new tools and tech and formats. And we'll continue to adapt to the changing needs of young people in the Lower Mainland, adapting and rethinking how we deliver our programs without missing a beat.

As we say goodbye to the year that was and to departing LOVE staff and board members, we say hello and welcome to new faces and opportunities for LOVE BC. We look forward to breaking down barriers and building more bridges, together, in the year ahead.

Much LOVE,
Heather Stoutenburg, Chair, Board of Directors



Programming

This year's programming included both online & in-person sessions. In Fall 2021, regular programming began with an established repertoire of online programs. This saw the introduction of in-person sessions in October, and we transitioned into the new year. With care, we renewed in-person art drop-ins in July 2021 with sessions on photography, water colour and acrylics, and a poetry slam.

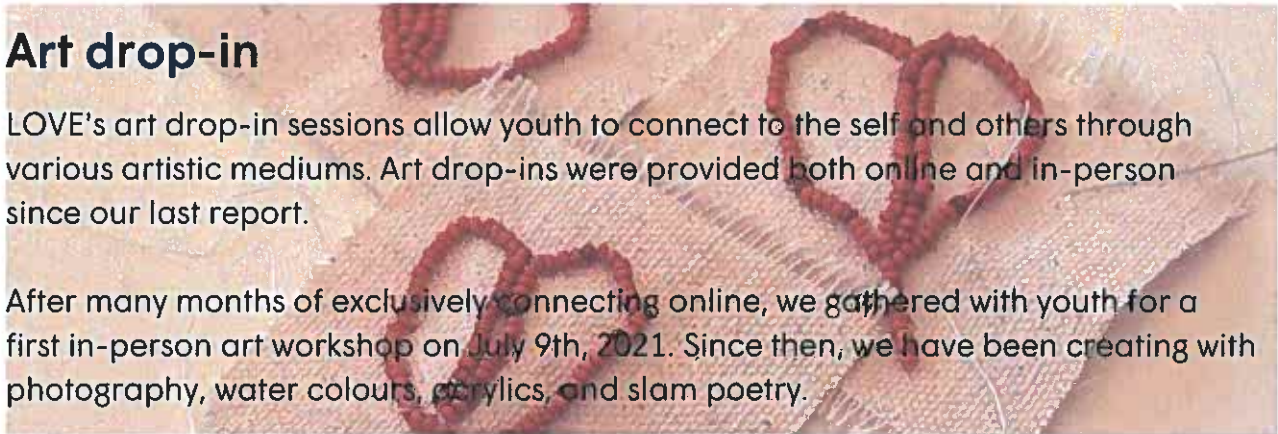
One-on-one

LOVE staff continues to provide one on one online and in-person support to young people. Whether these are improvised appointments around the LOVE office, a phone call, text or instachat, staff remain available and accessible to any youth who require individual support and resources.

Art drop-in

LOVE's art drop-in sessions allow youth to connect to the self and others through various artistic mediums. Art drop-ins were provided both online and in-person since our last report.

After many months of exclusively connecting online, we gathered with youth for a first in-person art workshop on July 9th, 2021. Since then, we have been creating with photography, water colours, acrylics, and slam poetry.



Beading with Denali

Leadership

LOVE's Leadership program followed a different curriculum this year: a weekly program with a focus on public speaking tools, workshop development, facilitation skills, and group dynamics, which we delivered over Zoom. This allowed young people from across the Lower Mainland to participate.

Our intimate group manifested an encouraging learning environment. The group had opportunities to brainstorm with each other as well as lead games, activities and conversations. Participants reflected their unique areas of interest and developed workshops such as how to build a paper airplane, self care, and mental health. Participants were encouraged to bring their workshops to Camp Potlatch, where one member facilitated a well-received jewelry making course, at which some participants created multiple pieces. They demonstrated what they learned during the leadership program and hosted a fun and creative environment!



Media Arts Program (MAP)

MAP is a free after-school program where youth channel creativity through artistic mediums such as photography, film, and writing. Art is used as a vehicle to explore anti-violence and social justice issues affecting youth and their communities. The Media Arts Program (MAP) was held in person as of October 2021 in Burnaby, Surrey, and Vancouver.



Acrylic painting by VW
at MAP Vantech

MAP Byrne Creek, Kwantlen Park, and Van Tech

Our MAP Programs are an open space for youth to express themselves in many different art forms, while discussing a wide assortment of subjects. Topics range from Healthy Relationships, Anti-O, Mental Health, Gender & Sexuality, as well as many more. We encourage our youth to bring forward topics which they'd like to learn more about.

Alumni Hangouts

Alumni Hangouts exist to reconnect alumni youth with LOVE BC and each other. Hangouts are a safe space for alumni to lead important conversations such as injustice in our cities and mental health issues, as well as provide support and share resources

With respectful communication and self care, we engaged in some of the more difficult topics impacting individuals and communities. In hangouts, we acknowledge that all hold different life experience, and as peers we are committed to listen to everyones voice.

Skills for a Successful Future (SKILLS)

Skills for a Successful Future (SKILLS) is a capacity-building program for youth, age 15 to 21 who identify as BIPOC, LGBTQ2S++, Immigrants, Refugees, financially and housing insecure, disabled, those in or exiting foster care; all who have been impacted by some sort of violence (emotional, physical, systemic).

Our focus is reducing barriers to employment and building resilience, confidence, and self-esteem. We approach this with four learning modules: Emotional Intelligence, Digital Literacy, Financial Literacy, and Personal Advocacy. This process supports youth to develop important skills and build tangible assets such as a portfolio, resume, and work experience, with the intent to help them gain meaningful employment.



Outreach & Violence Prevention Workshops

"I appreciated that the facilitators were willing and able to accommodate folks' different energy levels, intellectual capacities, and go with the flow."

-Outreach Participant

Outreach & VPC programs are held in community spaces throughout the Lower Mainland approximately twice per month all year long. We customize each workshop based on the needs of the participants. Our direct service volunteers co-facilitated these workshops and expressed their joy and sense of fulfillment to be involved in a meaningful way with the conversations that LOVE BC makes space for.

The most requested topics were cultural sensitivity and healthy relationships. This year, LOVE BC organized 26 workshops with over 600 attendees.

Respecting Diversity & Inclusion

The Respecting Diversity and Inclusion Program addresses in-person and cyber bullying with an emphasis on threat identification and protection. To address this, we explore how young people can resist negative online interactions, how they can use social media to start positive conversations around diversity and inclusion, while ensuring that their own messaging does not perpetuate stereotypes, racism, and exclusion.

This year, the program was extended from eight to twenty-one weeks based on participant requests to dive into the topics. This gave us the opportunity to clarify definitions, study healthy relationship building, and practice boundary setting. We delivered this in Vancouver, Surrey, and Burnaby with a hybrid format and an emphasis on in-person sessions. 85% of youth participants attended consistently.



Connection



Isolation

Highlights & Events

Sept. 2021 Photowalk

Love Alumni Thackery provided a walking photography workshop with youth through the Mt. Pleasant neighbourhood.

Nov. 2021 Chinatown & Black Strathcona Walking Tour

Youth and Staff participated in a walking tour exploring Vancouver's Downtown Eastside. Hosted by Solid State

Feb. 23, 2022 Pink Shirt Day

Love BC youth and staff participated in Pink Shirt Day by wearing pink shirts that were individually designed with anti-bullying messages.

May 2022 Camp Potlach

With much excitement, LOVE BC returned to Camp Potlach in 2022. This is a time when MAP and Leadership youths hone their skills by facilitating their own workshops on topics of interest. For many LOVE youth, LOVE Camp is their first time away from home or their first time having camp experiences like archery, hiking, water sports, and campfires.



Light drawing by M at Camp Potlach



'Nature Art' - Youth Team @ Camp Potlach

June 18, 2022 Graduation

Graduation 2022 brought us together at the BYRC where we enjoyed an evening of connection and congratulations. Swag, gifts, and certificates were distributed to our accomplished MAP and Leadership youth, then cupcakes and a beautiful meal were enjoyed together.



Financials

Message from the Financial Committee

2021-2022 was an exciting year as LOVE BC transitioned to a hybrid model of virtual and in-person programming. From a financial standpoint, the Finance Committee was pleased to see that federal emergency funding due to COVID-19 was no longer required and we were able to confidently rely on our traditional funding partners, resulting in a small surplus at the end of the fiscal year. A particular highlight was the growth in contributions through the 20th anniversary fundraising event - LOVE BC was able to generate a total of \$11,571 in addition to celebrating and reflecting on our achievements over the past 20 years!

Laura Froese, Treasurer

Message from the Fundraising Committee

The fundraising committee focused on bridging our efforts to a post-pandemic world, partnering with the outreach committee to organize our first fundraising event since 2019. Thank you to all the members of both committees who worked so hard to make the event happen. Unfortunately, we did not have enough folks who were comfortable returning to in person events so have delayed the event until later in the year. The work the committee did will be of great use, particularly the gathering of footage from LOVE camps over the years to create media we are excited to share soon!

The fundraising committee will continue to support LOVE's staff and mission in any way we can. Thank you again to everyone for your support.

With LOVE

Andy Price, Chair, Fundraising Committee

LEAVE OUT VIOLENCE (LOVE) SOCIETY BC Statement of Financial Position March 31, 2022

	2022
Assets	
Current	
Cash and cash equivalents (note 4)	\$ 211,144
Accounts receivable	1,024
GST receivable	770
Prepaid expenses	5,557
	\$ 218,495
Liabilities	
Current	
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities (note 5)	\$ 6,820
Deferred contributions (note 6)	95,128
	101,748
Net Assets	
Internally restricted contingency reserve	58,985
Unrestricted	57,762
	116,747
	\$ 218,495

Partnerships



Silos

Thank you, Supporters!

GOVERNMENT

BC Arts Council
BC Gaming Community Grant
City of Vancouver - DSS

CORPORATE

Coast Capital Savings Credit Union
Enterprise Holding Foundation
Home Depot Foundation
RBC Foundation
ScotiaBank Foundation
TELUS - Friendly Future Foundation

FOUNDATIONS AND CHARITABLE ORGANIZATIONS

Chris Spencer Foundation
Diamond Foundation
GMR Foundation
Jacob and Sandra Silberberg Family Fund
Provincial Employees Community
Services Fund
SurreyCares Community Foundation
United Way of Calgary
Vancouver Foundation
Zacks Family Charitable Foundation

PROGRAM

VOLUNTEERS

Denali YoungWolfe
Elana Mabrito
Maverick Trevor
Tonye Aganaba

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Broadway Youth Resource Centre
Byrne Creek Secondary School
Collingwood Neighbourhood House
Kwantlen Park Secondary School
Kwantlen Polytechnic University
North Shore Restorative Justice Society
Pathfinders Youth Society
Pathways to Education
Richmond Addictions Services Society
Richmond Centre Community Centre
Vancouver Technical Secondary School
Vancouver Pride Society

STAFF

Kat Gilliat, Program Facilitator
Kyle Atherton, Youth Alumni Facilitator
Lambrini Soulos, Executive Director
Marcey Amaya, Program Facilitator
Rabbit Ricahrds, Program Manager

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Andy Price
Elaine Zitner - Thank you for your service
Heather Stoutenburg
Kanakano Motohashi
Laura Froese
Lyla Hunter
Tracy Rawa - Thank you for your service

BOARD COMMITTEE VOLUNTEERS

Nigel Reeves
Troy Chelsey



Greater
than
anything

LOVE

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