

Annual Report 2022-2023

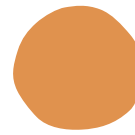
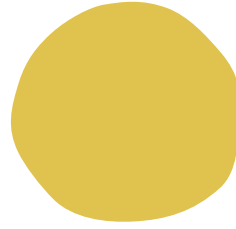
LEAVE OUT VIOLENCE / LOVE BC

Greater
than
anything

LOVE

**Greater
than
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LOVE



Leave Out Violence (LOVE) Society BC
2455 Fraser St
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Traditional, Unceded Coast Salish Territories

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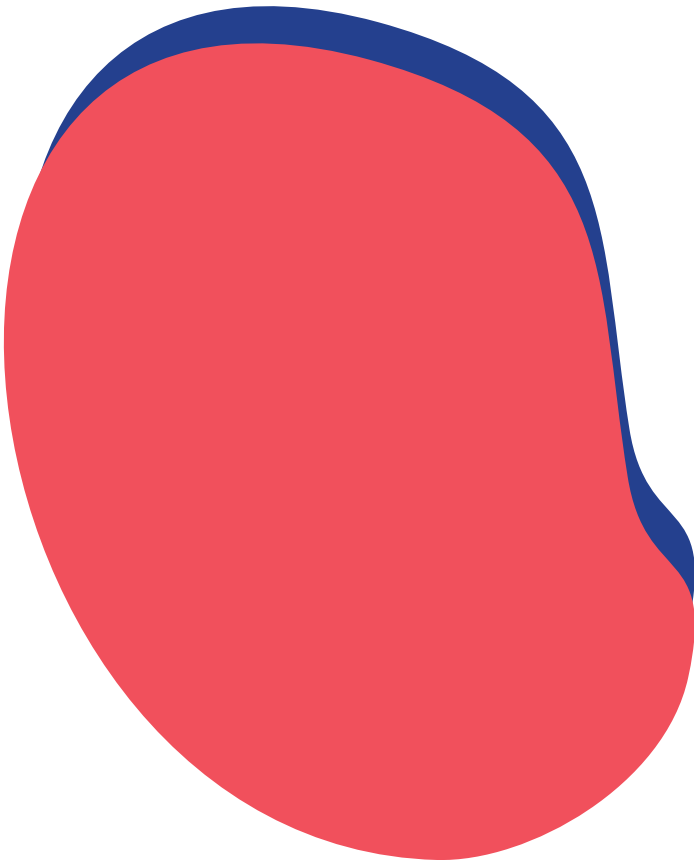


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LOVE'S LENS

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.

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.



MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Dear supporters,

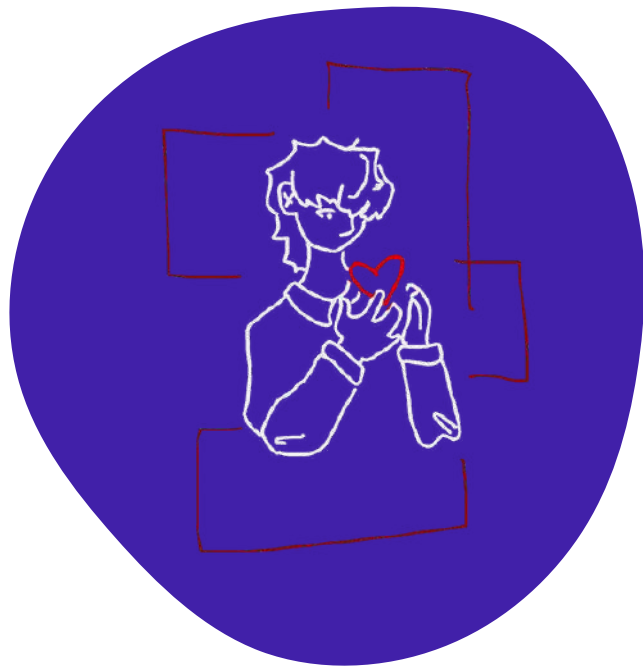
It is with immense gratitude and deep appreciation that I extend my heartfelt thanks to you on behalf of the board of LOVE BC. Your generosity has enabled LOVE BC to continue our vital work through a time of immense uncertainty. We have been excited and glad to return to in-person programming this year.

This year, I want to particularly highlight the amazing contributions of our Executive Director Lambrini Soulos. For the last seven years Lambrini has guided our team with kindness, expertise, and commitment to our mission. Through challenging times, Lambrini has ensured the health and sustainability of LOVE BC. As she moves on to her next chapter, I want to thank her from the bottom of my heart.

We look forward to introducing you all to our new Executive Director very soon.

Best wishes

Andy Price
Chair



2

resilience  adversity

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

As I reflect on last year, 2022-2023 was a year of engagement. LOVE BC focused on engaging through outreach initiatives with youth, volunteers, and community partners. Our team initiated a new outreach strategy with a focus on being present in the community by attending various community events to provide LOVE program information. Staff and youth reached over 2000 community members.

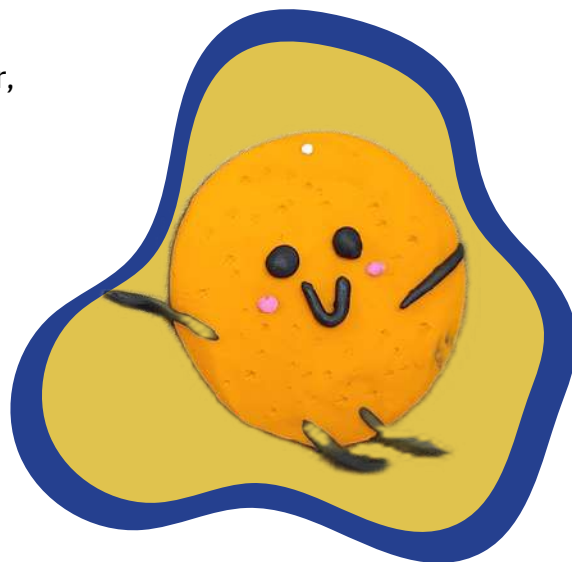
LOVE's Media Arts after school programs were offered at VanTech, Byrne Creek and Kwantlen Park. Our Leadership program was offered in a hybrid format of in person and virtually to support young people's participation across the Lower Mainland. LOVE BC facilitated 27 workshops to partner agencies with over 470 youth in attendance on topics such as Healthy Relationships, Diversity and Inclusion training, Self Care, etc.

Our work at LOVE continues to focus on sustainability and capacity building as we continue to diversify our funding revenues, our volunteer recruitment efforts and most importantly the personal and professional skill sets of our young peoples.

It has been an honour to work for LOVE BC in partnership as an adult ally for our youth, staff, volunteers and community partners. After seven years, I prepare to hand off the operations of the organization to new leadership. I learned so much from the youth cohorts, staff, volunteers and members of the board. I wish the new leadership all the best.

Best wishes to you all and much LOVE.

Lambrini Soulos
Executive Director,
LOVE BC



PROGRAMMING

MEDIA ARTS PROGRAM (MAP)

MAP (Media Arts Program) was run after school at VanTech SS (East Vancouver), Byrne Creek (Burnaby) and Kwantlen Park (Surrey). Throughout the year, we have explored many media arts, such as Radio Broadcasting, Light Painting, Embroidery, Stop Motion, and many more! As a group, we have also discussed and learned about more and more social justice issues. We have developed our skills in these areas and grown more aware of media literacy. Youth became aware of media arts' power to create positive change and advocate for social justice.

➤ MAP BURNABY & MAP SURREY

In our MAP Programs in Burnaby and Surrey, engagement was spirited, genuine, and intimate. These programs created open spaces to express in many different art forms, while discussing a wide assortment of topics such as: Healthy Relationships, Anti-Oppression, Mental Health, Gender & Sexuality, and many more. We encouraged our youth to bring forward any topic they were interested in to ensure access to as much relevant knowledge as possible.

Going forward, the youth who attended our programs are becoming outstanding leaders and would benefit from further exposure to the arts in person. We look forward to continuing to work with them.





➤ MAP VAN TECH

MAP at Vancouver Technical Secondary was dedicated group of youth. They always provided amazing moments of creativity and art making. We explored our lives as rivers in an imaginative environment, developed self care spiderwebs, and imagined our life times as trees. Every opportunity MAP VanTech youth had to create art, they took. We used drawing games, created poetry, and played theater games in a safe virtual settings.

OUTREACH & WORKSHOPS

LOVE BC facilitated outreaches and workshops throughout the Lower Mainland, approximately twice per month. Our most successful and most often requested topics were cultural sensitivity and healthy relationships. Volunteers participated as co-facilitators for these workshops and often expressed their joy and sense of fulfillment to be involved in a meaningful way with the conversations that LOVE BC makes space for.

“I’m taking away stories and lessons from other people. About sex ed, racism, mental health, violence targeted towards Indigenous people and their history.”

Virtual Programming

LOVE continues to provide some virtual programs to support young people in rural communities or for youth who are unable to attend programming in person.

One-on-One

LOVE staff continued to provide one on one support to young people through using various tools from texting, instachats and Discord chats etc., staff remained available and accessible to any youth who may have needed individual support and time.

Art drop-in

Art drop-in program was restarted at our co-location space at BYRC. Youth created art and shared creative ideas with various medums including photography, clay, paint and music.



PROGRAMMING CONTINUED...

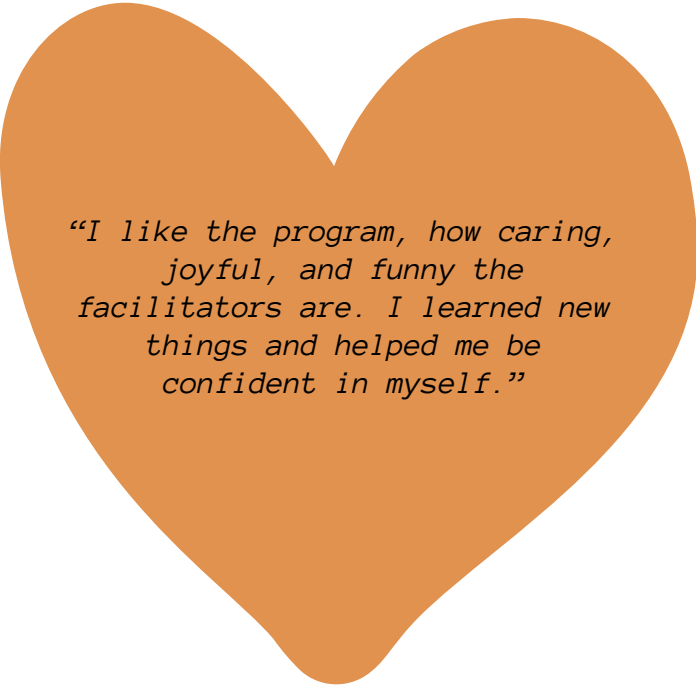
LEADERSHIP

In our Leadership program, our youth have in-depth discussions about issues they are interested in and want to share with others. They then develop creative solutions to address those issues. They learn from each other through experience and collaborative activities. At the end of the program, each youth-leader has the skills necessary to effectively lead and facilitate their own workshops.

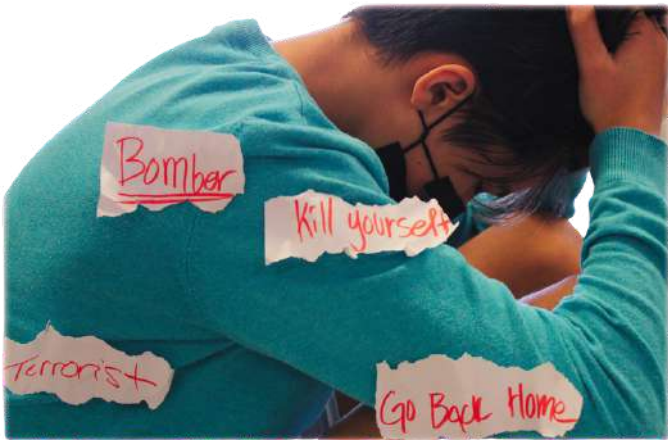
VIOLENCE PREVENTION COMMITTEES (VPC)

We have provided many VPC workshops for our wide community. Our workshop topics span from Healthy Relationships to Youth Taking Action and serve youth from 14-30 years old. We are committed to serving our community by providing knowledge and tools to foster positive and meaningful change.

Our workshops are designed to empower individuals and communities to make an impact and create a brighter future. The workshops we have provided this year have served 1,319 individuals so far! We have worked with the North Vancouver District Public Library, David Lloyd George Elementary, My Circle, and the City of Vancouver. The workshops have been extremely successful and we hope to reach more people in the coming years.



“I like the program, how caring, joyful, and funny the facilitators are. I learned new things and helped me be confident in myself.”



> SMYLE

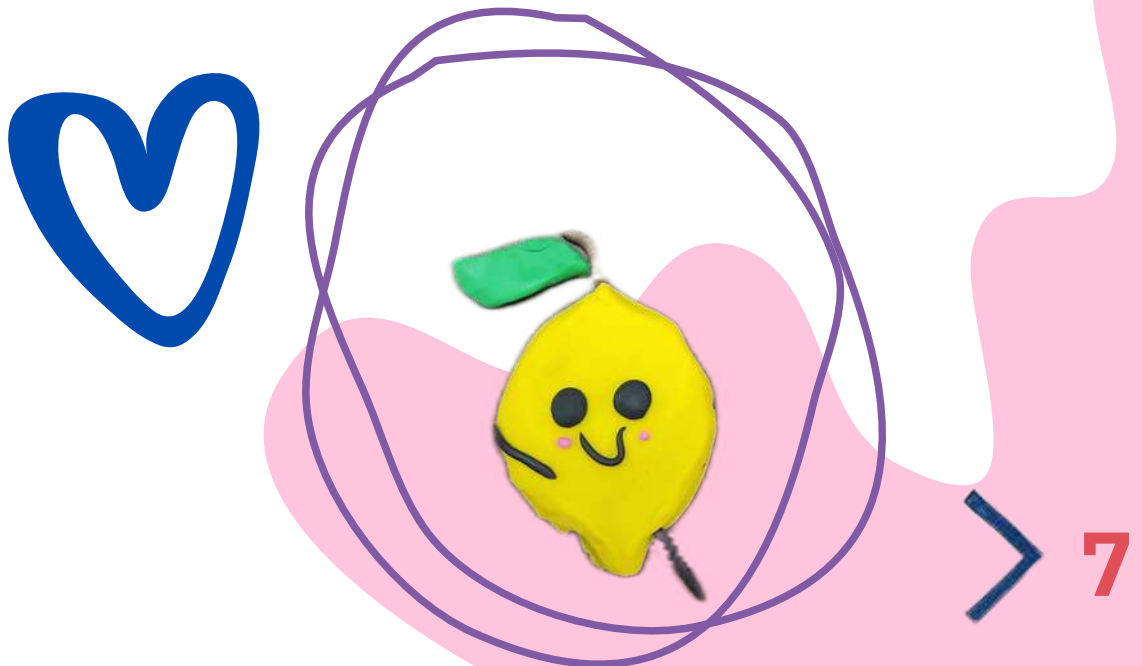
Social Media Youth Leaders Empowered (SMYLE) was a collaboration with multi-barrier youth to identify, explore, and find solutions related to employment.

This project was modified to provide both in person and virtual learning sessions to provide life skills training such as resume writing, budgeting, and portfolio development. Youth were connected to resources related to housing, continuing education, counselling, and financial support during the program project.

> YPINK

Young People Investing in Kindness (YPinK) was a component of MAP where youth overcame and expressed experiences of violence through media arts and leadership skills. Youth explored prevention and intervention strategies related to bullying, discrimination, and oppression.

YPinK's program was delivered a series of workshops on anti-violence, cyber bullying, use of pronouns, gender identity and expression as well as healthy relationships to youth aged 13 to 18 yrs old. Participants created poetry, art and social media posts on what it means to be non-judgemental, inclusive and an ally.



EVENTS & HIGHLIGHTS

May 2022

Camp Potlatch

LOVE BC's annual regional camp was canceled in person due to organizational capacity. This is normally a time when MAP and Leadership youths honed their leadership skills by facilitating their own workshops. For many youth in our programs it is their first time away from home or having a camp experience such as, participating in outdoor activities such as archery, hiking, water sports, and campfires. We look forward to resuming LOVE BC's regional camp in 2023-24

November 2022

Building Safer Communities Launch+ Community Stakeholder Meeting

LOVE and some of their youth joined to discuss prevention and addressment of the root causes of youth violence by creating safe spaces and empowering young people and communities to develop and implement solutions that set them up for success.

December 2022-March 2023

Community Connections

In partnership with the LOVE Quebec and LOVE Membertou (part of LOVE Nova Scotia), LOVE BC participated in a National Project called Community Connections. The essential idea of this project was to give LOVE youth a platform to discuss their experiences with systemic racism in their own words. Youths from each LOVE region met to discuss systemic racism and their experiences virtually and then each region had youths meet to express their experiences through various multimedia mediums. Personal stories were shared orally, by video, art work, photography and poetry. The final product will be a compilation of all the youth's work in a video format due to be released on various social media platforms in the fall of 2023.

June 2023

Graduation

Graduates of Leadership and MAP program celebrated their accomplishment by visiting Vancouver Aquarium. Before the visit, a celebration with food, games took place in BYRC. All graduates received their certificates and LOVE gifts as a thank you for their active participation and involvement throughout the year.



PROGRAMMING FACTS

Perspectives from surveyed LOVE youth

TOP 3 REASONS FOR COMING TO LOVE

1. "To discuss & learn anti-oppression and anti-violence topics"
2. "To be with like minded folks"
3. "To be in a safe and accessible space"

supports youth leadership development

61%

94% OF YOUTH THAT BELIEVE LOVE PROGRAMMING has changed their lives

provides a safe and accessible space for all young people

89%

supports youth artistic development

72%

MESSAGE FROM THE COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE

The purpose of this committee is to provide oversight around compliance and policy issues for the charity and to ensure that LOVE is in compliance with the BC Societies Act and other relevant statutory obligations under CRA charities.

The Compliance Committee in 2022- 2023 re- engaged with current members. It was recognized that we need to recruit new members for the upcoming work of the committee.

The committee members interviewed several community volunteers and looks forward to restarting the committee work in 2023-2024.



*“That **LOVE** supported me and showed me a way of connecting to others.”*



collaboration



division

MESSAGE FROM THE FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE

Dear Supporters,

It is with immense gratitude and deep appreciation that I extend my heartfelt thanks to you on behalf of the board of LOVE BC. Your generosity has enabled LOVE BC to continue our vital work through a time of immense uncertainty.

LOVE had planned and intended to host a fundraising event for the organization that had to be postponed due to some unforeseen circumstances. We are hoping to reschedule this event in the coming year. Thank you to all our friends who expressed interest and their support.

The fundraising committee has had a series of meetings to explore and develop our fundraising plan for LOVE BC as we move forward. We are also developing fundraising training for members of the Board of Directors.

Andy Price
Chair, Fundraising Committee



“It's okay to be yourself, and there are lots of people around you who love spending time with you and making you feel like you matter.”



FINANCIALS

LEAVE OUT VIOLENCE (LOVE) SOCIETY BC

Statement of Financial Position

March 31 2022-23

	2023	2022
Assets		
Current		
Cash and cash equivalents (note 4)	\$ 134,156	\$ 211,144
Accounts receivable	45,052	1,024
GST receivable	589	770
Prepaid expenses	5,609	5,557
	\$ 185,406	\$ 218,495
Liabilities		
Current		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities (note 5)	\$ 3,329	\$ 6,620
Deferred contributions (note 6)	95,128	95,128
	98,457	101,748
Net assets		
Internally restricted contingency reserve	98,457	
Unrestricted	98,457	
	86,949	116,747
	\$ 185,406	\$ 218,495

Message from the Financial Committee

2022-2023 was a challenging year for LOVE BC as the continued impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic were felt on multiple sources of financing. Despite these challenges, we were able to end the fiscal year with only a small deficit. For the upcoming year we will continue to work closely with the Board and leadership to ensure LOVE has the continued financial capacity to serve the community as it has for the past 21 years. The Finance Committee would also like to thank the outgoing Executive Director for her many years of passionate and dedicated service and wishes her the best of luck in her next chapter.

Laura
Treasurer, Board of Directors.

connection > separation



DONORS & SUPPORTERS

GOVERNMENT

BC Gaming Community Grant
City of Surrey
City of Vancouver- DSS

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Broadway Youth Resource Centre
Byrne Creek Secondary School
Camp Potlatch
Collingwood Neighbourhood House
grunt gallery
Kwantlen Park Secondary School
Kwantlen Polytechnic University
PeerNet
Richmond Addictions Services Society
Richmond Community Centre
Vancouver Technical Secondary School
Vancouver Pride Society
Van City Credit Union
ISS of BC-MyCircle
North Shore Restorative Justice Society

PROGRAM VOLUNTEERS

Denali YoungWolfe

**Thank you to all
our program supports!**

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Heather Stoutenburg
Lyla Hunter
Laura Froese
Andy Price
Troy Chelsey
Marcey Amaya
Alex Chan
Nigel Reeves

*Thank you to all our
individual donors!*

STAFF

Lambrini Soulos, Executive Director
Wyn Daquigan, Program Facilitator
Ciara Reid, Program Facilitator
Kat Gilliat, Program Facilitator



CORPORATE

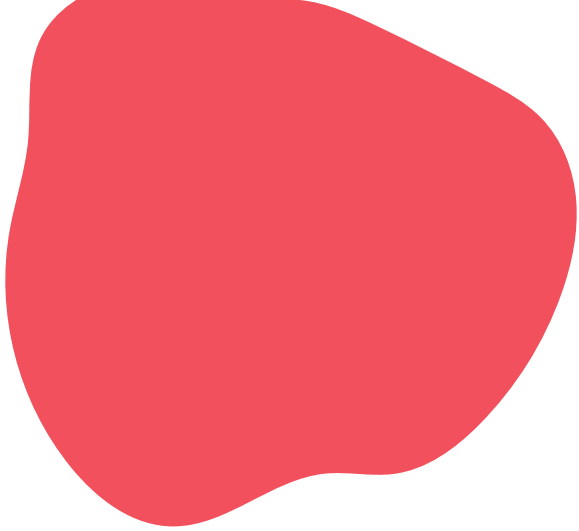
CKNW Kids' Fund
Scootiabank
First West Foundation - Envision
Financial Community Endowment

FOUNDATIONS AND CHARITABLE ORGANIZATIONS

Connor, Clark & Lunn Foundation
Home Depot Foundation
Jacob and Sandra Silberberg Family Fund
Provincial Employees Community Services Fund
SurreyCares Community Foundation Zacks
Family Charitable Foundation Chris Spencer Foundation
United Way of Calgary
Vancouver Foundation
SSQ Foundation
Vancity Community Foundation
Hamber Foundation
GMR Foundation
RedCross
The Co-operators Community Fund

> 14

adaptation > disruption



Leave Out Violence (LOVE) Society BC

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Traditional, Unceded territories of the
xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh
(Squamish), and səliwətał (Tsleil-Waututh)
Nations.

