




PREVENTION + INTERVENTION SOCIETY

2024-25 AGM REPORT

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MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

It is my pleasure to offer a message from the Board of Directors of Cedar Strong Prevention and Intervention Society.

This past year has been one of significant changes, starting with the re-branding initiative of Hope and Area Transition Society to the retirement of Gerry Dyble, Executive Director.

Cedar Strong Prevention and Intervention Society is our new name and our new brand. It reflects the tree of life. Medicine, wisdom, strength and endurance. Respected in ceremony, healing and wellness. Stands tall through life's storms with grace and resilience, while remaining grounded and steadfast. Demonstrates the commitment of the organization, of the people it helps, the communities that support it. Given by the elders of Chawathil First Nation Eyémstexw forms part of the new brand image and means (to make it strong) in Halq'emeylem. Gerry Dyble, the Executive Director of Cedar Strong has been part of this agency for 29 years and has led this great agency for 27 years. The Board of Directors is deeply grateful for Gerry's dedication and vision, her contributions have laid a strong foundation for our continued future growth and success. From each of us on the Board to the many lives that have been impacted by the services and programs that been brought to this community because of Gerry's resolve to ensure that individuals and families were able to access supports to help them build capacity, we own a great big thank you.

Every year there are significant accomplishments, and this past year is no different. Notably the groundbreaking of Supportive Housing occurred with a target move in date for the Spring of 2026. The addition of Junction BC to our Substance Use services will see more recovery services to Hope and surrounding area. The day-to-day work that is done to support and build capacity in the clients cannot go unnoticed, this is the heartbeat of the work that is done. The work is not easy working with the vulnerable, marginalized and oppressed, yet this is the work that our staff and leadership team do each day.

This will be my last Chair message as I step back and allow Julie Blok to take on the Chairperson role. Thank you all for your continued support.

Respectfully,

Susan Johnston

CEDAR STRONG BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Susan Johnson - *Board Chair*

Mark Bentley - *Treasurer*

Julie Blok - *Co-Chair*

Gina Bennett - *Director*

Jake Giles - *Director*

Claire MacDonald - *Director*

Lynne Marvell - *Director*

Marla Rosenberg - *Director*

Anne Todd - *Director*

Michelle Vandepol - *Director*



VISION

Cedar Strong Prevention & Intervention Society envisions a community where everyone can thrive, free from trauma and the barriers that hold people back. A place where individuals and families feel strong, resilient, and deeply connected to themselves, their loved ones, and the wider community.

MISSION

Cedar Strong is a non-profit organization in Hope, British Columbia to providing support that meets the needs of individuals and families. We recognize how deeply trauma can affect lives. We offer services, advocacy, and education that build resilience, empower people, and foster a more inclusive community.

ORGANIZATIONAL PHILOSOPHY

We believe everyone deserves dignity and respect, regardless of race, background, age, gender, orientation, culture, or spirituality. We acknowledge the power imbalances in our society and are dedicated to reducing these inequities to help create a more balanced, just community. Our vision is a world where all people can live free from abuse, addiction, and poverty.

**CEDAR STRONG
PREVENTION &
INTERVENTION SOCIETY IS
COMMITTED TO
ADVOCATING FOR
POSITIVE CHANGE AND
SUPPORTING THOSE IN
NEED.**

31 YEAR HISTORY OF SERVING THE EASTERN FRASER VALLEY AND BEYOND

2018-2028 STRATEGIC PLAN PROGRESS

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

- Enhancing In-House Services to women and children
- Sexual Assault Response and Prevention worker
- Sexualized Violence Response Team
- Continued work in developing Second Stage housing and supports
- Developing culturally appropriate services to Indigenous women and their families
- Pivoted services for women and children to virtual counselling sessions through COVID

SUBSTANCE USE

- Continued collaborative efforts with Fraser Health on the development and enhancement of substance use services
- Continued efforts on the promotion and awareness of the Overdose response
- Pivoted services to include virtual counselling sessions to support individuals through COVID
- Increased distribution of harm reduction and naloxone supplies

YOUTH AND FAMILY SERVICES

- Pivoted services to include virtual sessions to support individuals and families through COVID
- Enhancing programs through specialized groups targeting needs of individuals, youth, and families
- Continuum of services through early/middle/youth years
- Collaborative efforts with Ministry for Children and Families, Child and Youth Mental Health, and School District 78 in developing streamlined services

HOMELESSNESS

- Ongoing commitment and work in the establishment of Supportive Housing
- Enhanced services during COVID – increase of Outreach Workers
- Collaborative efforts with BC Housing in developing COVID safe spaces for clients
- Pivoted services to respond to the unsheltered population during COVID

AGENCY

- Ongoing work with BC Housing to establish housing for the vulnerable population
- Enhancing training for all staff
- Media campaign and enhancing social media platforms to promote agency services
- Ongoing development with community partners and Indigenous communities



MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

As another year passes, I have made the single most important decision of my professional career, retirement. As I reflect on where I began 29 years ago with the Hope and Area Transition Society, to where I am today, with Cedar Strong Prevention & Intervention Society, I could never have imagined the significance that this little nonprofit would have on the community of Hope and surrounding area, being a voice for rural and remote communities. Being an advocate for change, walking alongside clients in their journey and being witness to the changing needs of societal issues.

The achievements and accomplishments are integral to the fabric of the community:

- Expanding and enhancing domestic violence services
- Adding sexual assault services to Hope, Kent and Chilliwack
- Expanding Substance Use services which includes the Junction BC program
- Implementing Youth and Family Service programs, dedicated to supporting and building capacity in youth and families
- Spearheading the 56-unit Supportive Housing Project; opening in the Spring of 2026
- The development of a sister Society; Fraser-East Affordable Housing Society that operates the Ryder apartments
- Re-branding initiative from Hope and Area Transition Society to Cedar Strong Prevention & Intervention Society

Each of these accomplishments have been done in partnership and collaboration with local, regional and provincial partners. With a Board of Director's who supported the vision and fostered the growth.

It has been my pleasure to lead this agency, and I look forward to my phased retirement. I will hand over the reins on June 26, I leave with gratitude in being surrounded by such good people. Thank you all for being part of my story, now it is time for the next chapter to begin.

Respectfully submitted,

Geraldine (Gerry) Dyble, MBA

"Retirement is not the end of the road.
It is the beginning of the open highway."



HIGHLIGHTS & CEREMONY



REBRANDING

Hope and Area Transition Society conducted a re-branding initiative and in November 2024 this new brand identity was launched. Cedar Strong Prevention and Intervention Society was introduced to the community.

Cedar Strong Prevention and Intervention Society represents the tree of life. Medicine, wisdom, strength and endurance. Respected in ceremony, healing and wellness. Stands tall through life's storms with grace and resilience, while remaining grounded and steadfast. Demonstrates the commitment of the organization, of the people it helps, the communities that support it. Honoring our Halq'emeylem speaking people Eyémstexw will be used throughout the brand and translates to make strong.

HOUSE POST CEREMONY

Cedar Strong and Chawathil First Nation came together on October 22, 2024 in ceremony to honor the agency's house post that was carved by master carver Don Joe from Sts'ailes First Nation. The carving represents a fish, bear and eagle. The fish always returns home, the bear is introspective, and the eagle is a messenger from the spirit world. The significance of the house post indicates who the family is and that all are welcome.

This beautiful ceremony was witnessed by local First Nation communities, community partners, staff, Board of Directors and people from the community. Tradition and protocol are part of the Indigenous peoples way of being, part of Truth and Reconciliation for Cedar Strong is to be part of these protocols.



BREAKING GROUND

Ground was broken for a 56-bed supportive housing project on March 5, 15 years after the project's inception.

Dignitaries from Cedar Strong, BC Housing, the District of Hope and Chawathil First Nation attended a groundbreaking ceremony at 1275 7th Avenue, next to the Fraser Hope Lodge and Fraser Canyon Hospital (FCH). The anticipated opening of the facility is April 2026.



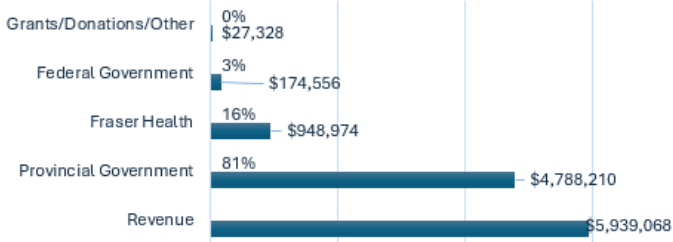
LEADERSHIP TEAM

Gerry Dyble - Executive Director
 Soraya Duncan - Finance Manager
 Mandy Paisley - Human Resources Manager
 Allison Paterson - Manager of Outreach Services
 Sam Kelley - Program Manager Youth & Family Services

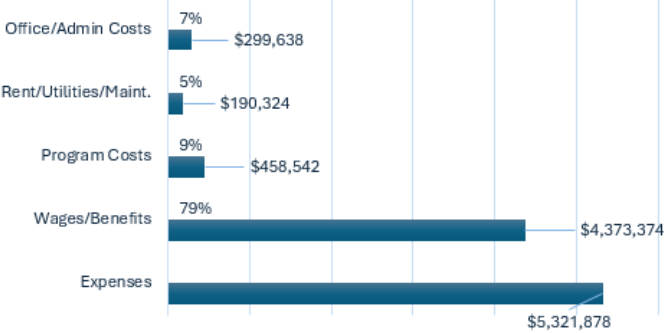
Anna Gladue - Transition House Coordinator
 Sam Basaraba - Emergency Shelter Coordinator
 David McAulay - Emergency Shelter Coordinator
 Brian Dodd - Emergency Shelter Coordinator
 Isabel Perez - Emergency Shelter Coordinator

FINANCE

Revenue

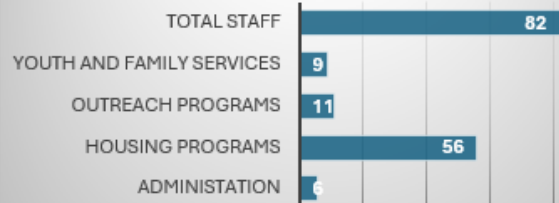


Expenses



HUMAN RESOURCES

Staff Per Program



FROM OUR STAFF

“Being a frontline worker for Cedar Strong Prevention & Intervention Society brings purpose to my life. I appreciate everything we do here.”

HOW CLIENTS CONNECT WITH US AT THE MAIN OFFICE

2879

Walk-Ins

121,854

Social Media Reach

1652

Phone Calls



OUTREACH SERVICES

1,776
Clients
Served

Case
Planning

Advocacy

Harm
Reduction

PROGRAMS

- Adult Substance Use Services
- Homeless Outreach Program
- Reaching Home
- Mental Health Substance Use
- Sexual Assault Services
- Stopping the Violence
- Harm Reduction

Adult Substance Use Services

Clients Served 172

1:1 Sessions - 383

Homeless Outreach

Clients Interactions - 1,475

Mental Health Substance Use

1:1 Sessions - 445

Sexual Assault Services

Clients Served - 68

Stopping the Violence

Clients Served - 61

1:1 Sessions - 592

Cedar Strongs Outreach Programs demonstrate a comprehensive approach to supporting vulnerable populations in Hope and the Fraser Canyon, emphasizing harm reduction, mental health, and safety for adults impacted by substance use, unsheltered and precariously sheltered individuals, and survivors of violence and sexual assault. The integration of peer support, virtual connections, and community collaboration through initiatives like the Community Action Table (CAT) enhances education and overdose prevention efforts. Homeless outreach and mental health services focus on providing essential resources, housing support, and safety for unsheltered adults, while the Stopping The Violence Program and Sexual Assault Services offer targeted assistance and advocacy for survivors ensuring a coordinated, multi-faceted response to complex community needs.

HARM REDUCTION

HR kits - 2,780

Hygiene Kits - 611

Naloxone - 408

CLIENT QUOTES

"We're not all perfect—and that's the beauty of it. At Cedar Strong, we're accepted just as we are."

"If it wasn't for you I wouldn't be here (in the world)."

"You guys give us hope. We are human too."



YOUTH & FAMILY SERVICES

1,128
Clients
Served

System
Navigation

Inclusion

Building
Resiliency

PROGRAMS

Family

- Family Therapy
- CALM Parenting Program
- Family Time Series
- Story Time in the Park
- Ready Set Learn
- Summer Pop Ups
- Whole Brain Child
- Family Place Presentations
- Hope Child and Youth Network

Youth

- Prevention, Education, Advocacy, Counselling, Empowerment (PEACE)
- Violence is Preventable (VIP)
- Youth Council
- Boys Group, Girls Group
- Youth Inclusion
- Youth Summer Adventures (Hope & Boston Bar)
- Substance Use Prevention & Health Promotion / Directed Studies
- Youth Group, Learn to Eat,
- Camp Kawkawa Youth Events
- Spring Break Adventures
- TREC Wellness Days
- Youth Coordinator

FAMILY SERVICES

Clients Served 376

1:1 Sessions - 688

Group/Presentation/Events - 167

YOUTH SERVICES

Clients Served 752

1:1 sessions - 836

Groups/Presentations/Events - 515

The Family and Youth Services Team continue to deliver inclusive, holistic support programs to youth and their families within the community. Guided by trauma-informed, strengths-based, and solution-focused approaches, the teams work to promote wellness across all areas of a young person's life while also supporting family preservation, resilience, and attachment. Through strong collaboration with community partners and stakeholders, they aim to enhance accessibility and build lasting relationships that benefit the entire community. Services include one-to-one sessions, school-based supports, group programs, classroom presentations, community events, and referrals—offered to a wide range of demographics to strengthen both individual and family capacities and help our community thrive.

CLIENT QUOTES

"I feel most safe and supported by my Cedar Strong support team, they advocate for me and help me navigate difficult situations with MCFD."

"(Worker) continues to support me during family crisis and is always welcoming."

"This program has really improved my life. I was happy to have been able to find it."

"It is an honour for me to be in the care of such incredible people."



HOUSING SERVICES

334
Clients
Served

Community

Basic
Human
Needs

Safety

House of Hope Emergency Shelter

Total Stays: 6,196

Individual Clients Sheltered: 81

The 900 Motel Shelter

Total Stays: 5,574

Individual Clients Sheltered: 31

Temporary Winter Shelter

Individual Clients Sheltered: 61

Mental Health Nurse

Total # of files reviewed = 168

Total # of Clients assessed = 104

Total # of calls made/received = 303

Jean Scott Transition House

Total # of DV Calls -- 619

Total # Women Served -- 43

Total # Children served -- 14

PROGRAMS

- House of Hope Emergency Shelter
- The 900 Motel Shelter
- Temporary Winter Shelter
- Mental Health Nurse
- Jean Scott Transition House

Emergency Shelters operated continuously, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, offering comprehensive support services that extended beyond basic shelter. These included meals; access to clean hygiene facilities; individualized case management; in-agency resource navigation; and a variety of group-based programs designed to foster community engagement. Guests in both shelters are consistently invited to collaborate on ideas to improve their space. During periods of extreme weather—whether severe winter cold or intense summer heat—the Temporary Weather Shelter was activated. Shelter and Outreach Teams collaborated to ensure the provision of safety, essential supplies, and refuge for our most vulnerable individuals in need.

The Jean Scott Transition House worked closely with women and their families as they took steps toward living free from violence and abuse. Ongoing collaboration with community partners has remained a big focus, helping us offer wraparound support that meets a wide range of needs.

CLIENT QUOTES

"Cedar Strong means support, balance and strength from staff".

"I like that the shelter staff make time to listen to me when I need to get things off my mind."

They are kind and supportive and give me hope."

"If it wasn't for this place I wouldn't have any friends. I have friends now."

"I can tell staff care because they can always tell when I have a bad or a good day."



FRASER EAST

AFFORDABLE HOUSING SOCIETY - HOPE, BC

Fraser-East Affordable Housing Society is a sister society to Cedar Strong Prevention and Intervention Society. Fraser-East provides low, moderate and market housing, offering 40-units ranging from studio apartments, and 2 and 3-bedroom apartments.

This is independent living with a diverse population of tenants, ranging from families, seniors and single occupants. A welcoming environment with various opportunities to volunteer in the building to make this apartment welcoming.

50
Tenants
Served

Tenant
Support

Advocacy
/Referral

OVERVIEW

of low income housing = 8

of moderate income housing = 19

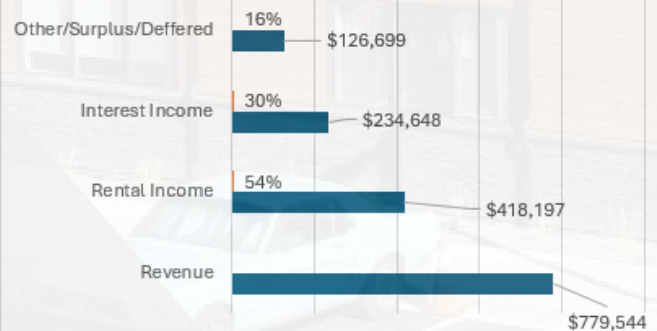
of market income housing = 12

of applicants = 73

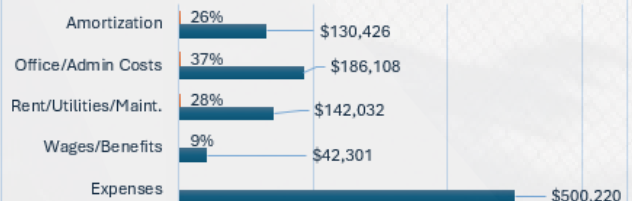
Vacancy = 0

FINANCE

Revenue



Expenses



SPONSORS AND DONORS

Cedar Strong Prevention & Intervention Society is a multi-funded, multiservice agency. We achieve our vision and mission through the support of numerous donors, foundations, and funders, including some of our major funders

Canada 



BRITISH
COLUMBIA

 community
action
initiative

We acknowledge that we gather on the traditional ancestral and unceded shared territory of the Chawathil people of the Tiyt Tribe. The Tiyt Tribes of the Stó:lō territory extend along the boundaries down both sides of the Fraser River from Yale to Seabird. We acknowledge that our work extends into the traditional ancestral unceded shared territory of the Nlaka'pamux people from Spuzzum to Lytton.

We acknowledge the many community and regional partnerships that contribute to the work of the Hope and Area Transition Society. The many donors and supporters who contribute cash, clothing, food, furniture, household items and countless other items that help our clients regain their self-worth and dignity. This is not a hand-out; it is a hand-up. We acknowledge the District of Hope for their permissive tax exemption.

Finally, we acknowledge Jean Scott (April 12, 1912 – February 25, 2015), the namesake of the Transition House, born in an era where women were disenfranchised. Jean spent her life as a community activist and feminist, she firmly believed that what we do know gives strength, courage, and encouragement to those who are following us and that we ought to give credit to those who carried the very difficult campaign forward of being a trailblazer for women's equality.

