



PREVENTION + INTERVENTION SOCIETY

2025-26 AGM REPORT

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MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

It has been my pleasure to represent Cedar Strong Prevention and Intervention Society as Chairperson of the Board of Directors. This was my first year in the Chairperson role and as I continue to learn and grow into this role, I have come to recognize the integral role that Cedar Strong plays in the community, providing prevention and intervention services and programs to those who are marginalized and oppressed.

Through the guidance of the Board to the Executive Director, and through to the leadership team and then onto the front-line staff, good work is being done, lives are being changed and capacity is being modelled for our clients.

Notability, this year the construction of Supportive Housing and Shelter services new facility began with the opening scheduled for October 2026.

The Board recognizes all the programs and services under Cedar Strong's umbrella, from Domestic Violence, Substance Use, Youth and Family Services and Homelessness. The work that is done through these programs is invaluable to the community and to the people who access these programs. Prevention is instrumental in avoiding social ills and mitigates the need for intervention which can be intrusive and overwhelming in one's life.

To the dedicated staff, who day-in and day-out work with those who are affected by trauma, each of you must be commended and recognized. Equally committed to the work that is done in the agency is the dedicated Board of Director's who diligently review reports, financial data, and budgets to ensure oversight and due diligence is maintained.

We have a strong, diverse Board who is committed to working alongside the Executive Director and the leadership team in supporting initiatives that will address emerging issues, trends, and gaps in service delivery. I look forward to another year as the Chair of the Board and am looking forward to what the 2026/2027 year has in store for Cedar Strong and the community.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Blok

Board Chairperson

CEDAR STRONG BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Julie Blok - Board Chair

Susan Johnston - Board Member

Michelle Vandepol - Board Member

Gina Bennett - Board Member

Mark Bentley - Board Member

Anne Todd - Board Member

Lynne Marvell - Board Member



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.**

32 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

2025/2026 was to be my last year with Cedar Strong and move into retirement. In January of 2026 I was appointed Interim Executive Director, while the Board continues to seek a permanent Executive Director to lead the agency.

Cedar Strong Prevention and Intervention Society is a significant nonprofit organization that has made and will continue to make substantial contributions to the community and the people that we serve, building capacity in those to live better, strong and healthier lives.

Accomplishments of the past year include:

- The construction of 56-units of Supportive Housing, 15 Shelter beds and 15 Temporary Winter Shelter beds, the projected opening date for October of 2026
- The Junction, a program that offers substance use recovery services
- The Youth programming that provides relational support, connection and opportunity for change

Each of the 25+ programs that are offered throughout Hope and surrounding area make an impact on the lives of people served. We may never see the impact, but seeds of change and opportunity are planted and take root. Many times, the people we serve do not see what could be in their lives and we are here to show them what is possible. Success is not measured in "huge, monumental" outward accomplishments, rather in those small, layered moments.

The work that we do is not done in isolation, it is done through provincial, regional, and local partnerships. With a Board of Directors who support the vision and foster growth. A management team who leads their teams in the delivery of what is expected from the funder and the front-line staff who work tirelessly with clients. This is a measure of teamwork and collaboration.

It is my pleasure to return to the role as Interim Executive Director, to ensure that the agency's strategic leadership continues. My work for the coming year will be to ensure that a strong leadership team is in place, best practices for delivery of services are maintained and that Cedar Strong's reputation is held to the highest standards.

Respectfully submitted,

Geraldine (Gerry) Dyble, MBA



"Working together on solving something requires a high level of humility and a high level of self-awareness." - Paul Polman



HIGHLIGHTS & CEREMONY



CONSTRUCTION SUPPORTIVE HOUSING

March 2025 the construction of the 56-unit supportive housing, 15 shelter beds and 15 Temporary Winter Shelter beds began. This new facility will open in October 2026, welcoming the unhoused population into safe shelter and housing. Funded by BC Housing and operated by Cedar Strong, this facility will showcase how housing can change the trajectory of people's lives.

THE JUNCTION

Opening in September 2026, is a new type of Recovery Community Centre that helps participants build recovery capital and wellness. Supporting people to expand their personal, social and community resources, it is a hub of community-based support for people 19+ who self-identify as maintaining or seeking recovery or wellness from substance use.

Aftercare services and ongoing wellness supports are crucial to ensure people continue to receive the support they need on their pathway to recovery. But the pathway to recovery and long-term wellness does not end at treatment.

Recovery Community Centers play a crucial role in helping people in recovery build connections, resiliency and wellness through mutual peer support, life-skills programming, and relapse prevention.

Recovery Community Centers are a vital part of Road to Recovery, a made-in-B.C. model of addictions care, which is improving the way people access services, with a seamless transition from prevention to treatment and post-treatment services.



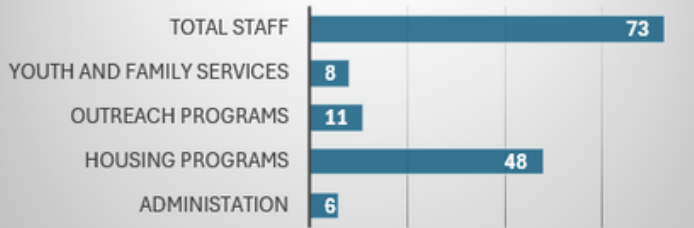
YOUTH ADVENTURE DAY CAMPS

The Youth Adventures Camp initiative was developed through meaningful partnership between Hope RCMP, Camp Kawakawa and Cedar Strong's Family and Youth Services. This initiative focuses on supporting youth in Hope and surrounding communities who are at risk or who have had previous interactions with police. Its purpose is to create opportunities for positive connection, allowing youth and RCMP officers to build trust, understanding and healthy relationships.



HUMAN RESOURCES

Staff Per Program



FROM OUR STAFF

"Being a frontline worker for Cedar Strong Prevention & Intervention Society brings purpose to my life. I am grateful for the opportunity to be a part of an organization that is building a stronger community."

YEARS OF SERVICE

CEDAR STRONG RECOGNIZES THE DEDICATION AND COMMITMENT OF EMPLOYEES FOR THEIR YEARS OF SERVICE:

15+ YEARS OF SERVICE

ALLISON PATERSON

10 TO 14 YEARS OF SERVICE

BRIAN LAMBRIGHT
MAUREEN CERA

6 TO 9 YEARS OF SERVICE

KELSEY JOHN
ISABEL PEREZ
ILENE AJTAY
TRACI PAYANT
TRACY KINGDON
SAMANTHA KELLEY
TASHAWNA BELL
CONNIE MARTIN

5 YEARS OF SERVICE

NATALIE DICKEN
SANDRA OLSEN
PERRY HOPE
TAYLOR SMITH
KIM NICOL

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

After 11 years of service with Cedar Strong Soraya Duncan – Finance Manager, retired in March 2026. Her unwavering dedication and commitment to the agency, employees and the community-at-large was demonstrated day-in-and-day out. She knew the finances of the agency like the back of her hand. She always made sure staff were paid, even when she was on vacation. Funders and staff knew that they could rely on her steady guidance. The agency wishes Soraya the best in her retirement.



LEADERSHIP TEAM

Gerry Dyble - Executive Director

Brent Dafoe - Finance Manager

Crystal Sylvester - Human Resources Manager

Allison Paterson - Manager of Outreach Services

Sam Kelley - Program Manager Youth & Family Services

Renee Marlatt - Housing Manager

Nina Rihl - Transition House Coordinator

Isabel Perez - Emergency Shelter Coordinator

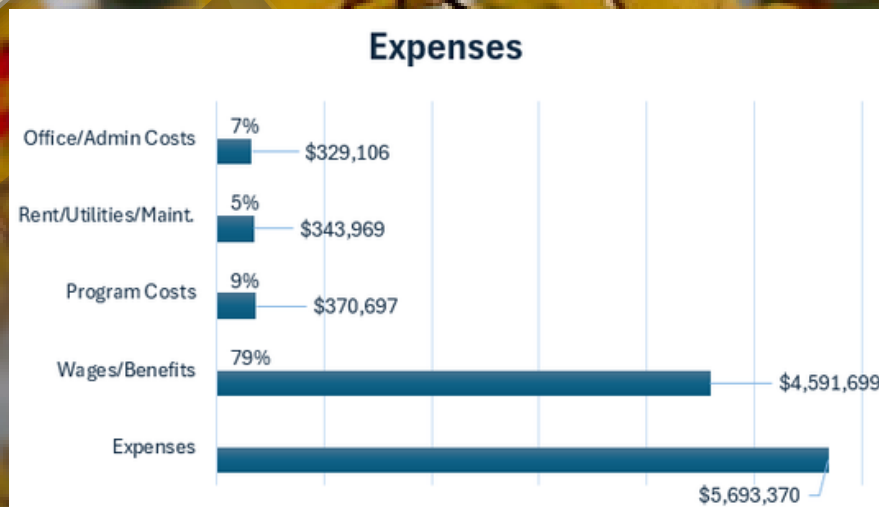
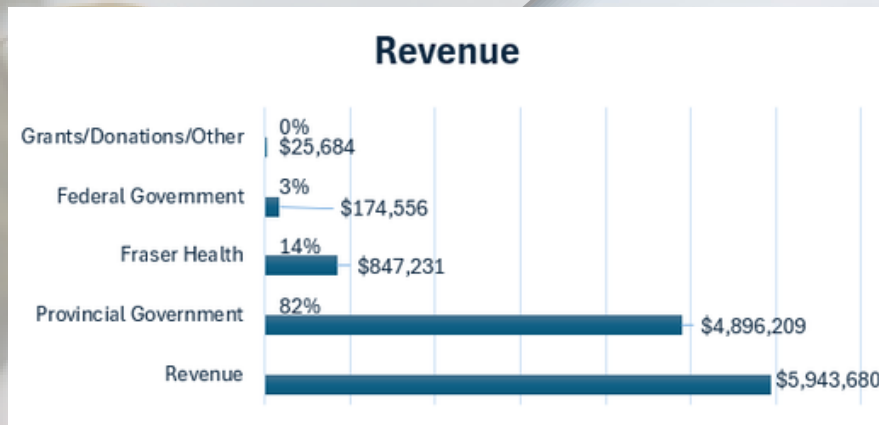
Sandra Olsen - Emergency Shelter Coordinator

Sarah Agnew - Emergency Shelter Coordinator

Parmaveer Grewal - Emergency Shelter Coordinator

Peter Strum - Kitchen Coordinator

FINANCE



HOW CLIENTS CONNECT WITH US AT THE MAIN OFFICE

4,290

Walk-Ins

165,138

Social Media
Reach

2447

Phone
Calls



OUTREACH SERVICES

HARM REDUCTION

HR kits – 4,885
Hygiene Kits -846
Naloxone – 560

730
Clients
Served

Case
Planning

Advocacy

Harm
Reduction

PROGRAMS

Adult Substance Use Services

Clients Served - 114
1:1 Sessions - 350
Groups/Presentations/Events – 84

Homeless Outreach

Clients Served - 332
1:1 Sessions - 1370
Groups/Presentations/Events - 21

Mental Health Substance Use & CAT

Clients Served - 115
1:1 Sessions - 528
Groups/Presentations/Events – 50

Gender Based Violence

Clients Served - 68
1:1 Sessions - 126
Groups/Presentations/Events - 21

Stopping the Violence

Clients Served - 72
1:1 Sessions - 518
Groups/Presentations/Events - 47

Cedar Strong's 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.

THE JUNCTION

Clients Served - 29
1:1 Sessions - 54
Groups/Events -
273

CLIENT QUOTES

"Thank you so much for sticking by me and not giving up on me over the years"- client call from treatment.

"It's so great to see you cleaning up the community- we need more of this!"

"I feel heard and understood; accepted and not judged."



YOUTH & FAMILY SERVICES

1,398
Clients
Served

System
Navigation

Inclusion

Building
Resiliency

Family Programs

- Family Therapy
- CALM Parenting Program
- Story Time in the Park
- Ready Set Learn
- Summer Pop Ups
- Whole Brain Child Family Outdoor Adventures
- Nobody's Perfect Parenting Program
- Connect Parenting Program
- My Tween and Me Parenting Program
- Family Services Drop In
- Hope Child and Youth Network

Youth Programs

- 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, TREC Connect,
- Camp Kawkawa Youth Events
- Spring Break Adventures
- Youth Coordinator
- Punk Band Youth Group & Acting Group
- Book Club & Creative Connections
- Youth Service Provider Lunch & Learns

FAMILY SERVICES

Clients Served 574

1:1 Sessions - 967

Groups/Presentations/Events - 143

YOUTH SERVICES

Clients Served 824

1:1 sessions - 737

Groups/Presentations/Events - 462

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

"Made me feel proud to be a part of something that is making change." - Youth Council Member

"The staff here make me feel safe and heard."

"Youth Council makes a great impact and I am thankful and grateful to have the opportunity to be a part of it."



HOUSING SERVICES

339
Clients
Served

Community

Basic
Human
Needs

Safety

House of Hope Emergency Shelter

Total Stays: 5,805

Individual Clients Sheltered: 87

The 900 Motel Shelter

Total Stays: 4,582

Individual Clients Sheltered: 37

Temporary Winter Shelter

Total Stays: 2,150

Individual Clients Sheltered: 80

Mental Health Nurse

Total # of files reviewed = 170

Total # of Clients assessed = 100

Total # of calls made/received = 358

Jean Scott Transition House

Total Crisis Calls -- 336

Total # Women Served -- 25

Total # Children served -- 10

PROGRAMS

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

Emergency Shelters offer 24- hour support, 365 days a year. Over the past year, we have focused on strengthening our operations. We have revamped our intake process and case management, developed a guiding document for staff training, and developed a new Staff Handbook for the Temporary Weather Shelter.

In addition to our streamlined operations, we have implemented a new reporting system, EmpowerDB. This new system provides safer storage of personal information, tracking of move-ins and move-outs, and improved documentation of client outcomes and data collection.

Jean Scott Transition House continues to offer safe, supportive housing supports for women and their children fleeing violence and abuse. At the start of this fiscal year, the Transition House was selected for two community projects, Cedar Blanket and CALM. Cedar Blanket will ensure our services are tailored to the needs of Indigenous women in our community, and the CALM project provides assessment tools and support to the K9 members of families. We hope to apply our learning across all Shelter service locations.

CLIENT QUOTES

"They enforce the rules about no substance use inside and it feels safe."

"The 900 shelter is among the top #2 places for food here!"

"The way I was treated when I was going through my cancer treatment, everyone was so supportive. It means a lot"

"The staff here care about me."

"I know I can get help from the staff if I need help."



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



BRITISH
COLUMBIA



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 uncaded 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 Cedar Strong Prevention & Intervention 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.

