



# REVELSTOKE WOMEN'S SHELTER

Annual Report 2022-23

S - Support/Safety  
H - Hope  
E - Equality  
L - Love  
T - Transform/Thrive  
E - Empower  
R - Rise up



REVELSTOKE  
**Women's Shelter  
Society**



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## Executive Director's Report

Lynn Loepky

HOPE to RWSS reflects healing, optimism, perseverance and empowerment.

The 2022-2023 year brought about many changes. With COVID-19 restrictions lifted and the shelter operating at full capacity, things got BUSY. During the pandemic, HOPE was a never-ending thought: hope for safety, hope for a vaccine, hope to visit families and friends. As things began to open up, the hope for safety began to become a reality for our women experiencing, or at risk of experiencing, violence. Isolation and the lock-down affected women in so many ways. Isolated and feeling alone with their abuser, hope was all they had to hold onto. Although, like many other shelters, we continued our services throughout the pandemic, the increase in the number of women accessing services after the lifting of restrictions is staggering.



Women hold onto hope, hope that they are loved, hope that the abuser changes, hope that their children will be okay, hope for prosperity, hope for employment and hope that they can find housing. When women leave, they leave behind not only the abuse but the life they have built. They often come here with their hopes and dreams shattered. Their life as they know it is gone and the abuse does not end. They still find themselves managing the situation. They often receive endless text messages, Facebook posts, tweets and phone calls from the abuser. Police files, MCFD involvement, family and criminal court trials often seem never-ending. Again, hope is all they have, hope that they will be listened to, hope that they will be believed, hope that they are safe outside the transition house, hope that the courts will hear and understand the abuse. (Card: Heather)

New hope often starts when women enter our doors. Finally, someone believes them, supports them and listens to them. Staff recognized that women's issues had become more complex and our programming reflects that change. We now have three components to our Moving Forward program: activities, counselling and education. (Adria's report) We began to offer ten free in-house counselling sessions and hired a clinical counsellor. (Counselling report) We also recognized that we needed various methods of healing and offered art therapy through a practicum placement. (Marina's report) Our third component, education and prevention, was conducted in collaboration with Columbia Park Elementary and Revelstoke Secondary School. (Michelle and Jane)

Because abuse happens to all age groups, we have the Community Response Network contract which educates and raises awareness about elder abuse. (CRN Report: Laura)

Housing is always a challenge so we have signed a contract with BC Housing to provide housing subsidies. Staff are trained to assist with the intake process. (CHP-HPP report)

Women often face legal barriers so we partnered with RISE legal services and have three staff trained to assist women to navigate legal issues (RISE: Nancy, Megan, Christine)

Gender-based violence is increasing in Canada, with more than 200 deaths related to intimate partner violence in 2022, up from 171 in 2020. Recognizing that collaboration between agencies could be useful in helping to reduce the risk of severe injury or death in high-risk domestic cases, Integrated Case Assessment Teams were established. In 2021, the RWSS provided training for the ICAT team and the partnering agencies, with more than 30 participants.

Our programming is funded solely by grants and donations so funding is always a challenge. The Coldest Night of the Year is our biggest fundraiser of the year and I would like to recognize our sponsors and volunteers who supported this important event.

We would also like to thank the agencies we collaborate with: the RCMP, Interior Health, Community Connections, the Indigenous Friendship Society, the Child Care Society, Arts Revelstoke, RISE legal aid, the Senior Citizens' Society and the Hospital Auxiliary and Legion thrift stores.

Again, I would like to remind everyone that hope is what fuels our work.

HOPE to RWSS represents healing, optimism, perseverance and empowerment.

### What is gender-based violence?

Gender-based violence is abuse that women, girls, and Two Spirit, trans and non-binary people are at highest risk of experiencing. It can take physical and emotional forms, such as: name-calling, hitting, pushing, blocking, stalking/criminal harassment, rape, sexual assault, control and manipulation. Many forms of this abuse are against the law.

Gender-based violence can happen between people in romantic relationships, in families, at work and between friends, acquaintances and strangers. It often occurs in private places between people who know each other.

Anybody can be abused, no matter their background, identity, or circumstance. But women, girls, and gender-diverse people are at high risk of gender-based violence. Some are at even higher risk, due to the additional discrimination and barriers they face. This includes women with disabilities, Indigenous women, racialized women, trans and non-binary people, and women who are homeless or underhoused. People facing abuse may not have access to services that meet their needs (e.g. people in rural or remote areas).

## The Year in Numbers

The fiscal year ending in March 2022 saw another increase in the number of women and a slight decrease in the number of children staying at the shelter, in both cases exceeding 2019-2020 (pre-epidemic) levels. This past year, 41 women and 15 children stayed with us. Seventeen of the women were from Revelstoke, 11 were from the region (less than 200 kms away), eight were from BC and three were from out of province.

We had 906 bed nights for women and 349 bed nights for children last fiscal year. The shelter was full, with all five BC-Housing-funded beds occupied, for 45 nights last year. For 59 nights we were above capacity, meaning we were using beds that we fundraise for ourselves. These numbers were higher than any year in the last three years.

Once again three-quarters of the women who stayed were fleeing abuse and only two stayed because of homelessness. The rest (8) stayed for support for other difficulties in their lives. Almost all of the women were between 30 and 59 years of age – 12 were in their 30s; 13 were in their 40s; and ten were in their 50s. Most of the children were in the 3-5-year range.

Four women and three children were recent immigrants or refugees. Two women and two children did not speak English. Ten women (about a quarter) and nine children identified as Indigenous.

Fourteen women stayed between two and seven days. Eight stayed for just one night and six stayed for eight to 14 nights. Five women stayed for more than a month and three stayed for more than three months. One-third of the women stayed in Revelstoke and the others left town, often to join other support systems like family and friends.



Revelstoke GUESS!!!

Ladies, I will try my best to put into words what this house & all, each & everyone of you have done to me. To say the least - my life trajectory has totally changed, for the better! I see you all as 1 symphony - each playing a unique & vital part to the whole - without one instrument off, missing or absent - the whole music is off. That is Here! A special symphony, with an extremely unique song - that equals each of you to be a part of it - to be! I have NEVER felt so loved, so safe, so seen, so pay attention to, so cared for & so respected. I definitely had my moments, but, you were ALL there in your own ways to offer me tea, advice me on a bathe<sup>(which I now love)</sup>, tell me to rest, talk, offer advice, listen, ect, ect. I have had so much healing and its truly because of each of you - I will never be able to express my gratitude & Love in this card - but I hope you feel it in your hearts! You truly all helped me heal & over grow &

over come a dark, scary time of my life. The first week or so that I was here - I was very confused at how many times the kettle light was on & how much laughter was coming from the closed front of house door - What the heck is this place I thought? So much Love, Kindness, Happiness, Friendship - it blew my mind! (at the start) - then as time went on - ah, I see, this IS the house - this IS a safe space, a home, where Love is shared, laughter is shared, support is available, talks are constant - wow! You guys are all so amazing & I feel so blessed, so honoured that you all helped care for me, make sure I was safe, made sure I was fed, wow! It is the House of Healing - Women helping Women! I AM SO STOKED for Life ahead & I look forward to coming by, calling & catching up - all the best & all my Love to each & everyone of you

intelligent women,  
smart, unique,  
lovely, amazing, strong, beautiful, kind,

## The Moving Forward Program

Adria Tillen

Exciting things have been happening with the Moving Forward Outreach Program over the last year. I'd like to tell you a bit about what we've been doing.

We've been offering yoga for some years now and have been navigating through interesting waters. I started my position just as the Covid-19 pandemic hit and we shut down meeting in person. The following year we tried to find a good date and time to offer weekly yoga classes and found that we were struggling with very low turnout. This year, however, we found our sweet spot: 5:30pm on Thursday evenings. This has shown the biggest success rate with from two to 16 participants each time. We haven't had to cancel a single class due to no-shows at all this year!

We introduced a group of women to local artist, Barbara Maye, who offered an eight-week art class for eight women in the community. She offered her skill and insight and, with a deep heart, engaged the women openly. She loved her experience and had an amazing response from the women present. Our little group had a strong bond and enjoyed each other's company immensely.

I supported a senior who found herself in transition from her home to Queen Victoria Hospital where she waited to get a bed in assisted living. She handled the transition with grace right up until she got news that she was accepted into her number one choice of assisted living housing! We rejoice with her that she is happy in her new home and is now near her sister and family.

Grocery shopping for seniors and delivering Food Recovery hampers is a key component of what I do as an outreach worker. This has fostered friendships with individuals who cannot leave their homes for health reasons. It is a highlight of both their and my week as we see each other and connect every Friday.

We had an art therapy practicum student who worked with women in a small group setting. The women support one another in a safe space and share their stories with one another. Creativity sparked and connections were made. Each woman was thankful for the opportunity to create, heal and connect.

We recently started chair yoga at the Seniors Centre and it has been a huge success! Numbers were as high as 12 participants. We began as a trial run so test the waters of interest, and we plan to implement it every week ongoing to fill the need.

In previous years, a generous family put together baskets to give to families and individuals in need at Christmas. This family was not able to do so this Christmas and so staff reached out to the community to see if businesses would donate goods or gift cards.

The response was so overwhelming that we had to put out a notice that we had exceeded our capacity and didn't need more donations! What encouragement!

## Moving Forward Statistics

Grocery shopping/food recovery deliveries: 130  
Phone support calls: 161  
Hospital/Mt Cartier Cottage visits: 52  
Outreach support appointments: 28  
Yoga classes: 38  
Art classes: 7  
Workshops: 24  
Art therapy classes: 15  
Total women who attended an event/workshop participants: 399  
Child participants: 71



Camping

## Moving Forward: Counselling Program

Available to shelter clients and the Revelstoke Community

Our in-house counsellor program means that women who stay at the shelter have free access to professional guidance in the safe environment of the shelter. Our in-house counsellors visit the transition house for appointments with in-house clients.

We have also opened this program up to the wider community of Revelstoke as we recognise that addressing mental health in general helps prevent abuse. Anyone in the community, of any gender, can access up to ten free sessions in this program.

We are pleased to offer the services of three counselling practicum students: Marina Rachinski, Melyssa Hudson and Phoebe Toop. Marina offers art therapy and Melyssa and Phoebe offer general counselling.





## Phoebe Toop, Clinical Counselling Student

I began my journey towards a career in mental health when I completed a Bachelor of Psychology (with honours) in 2018. This felt like a naturally good fit for me as someone who has always been fascinated by the human condition and motivated to deepen their self-awareness. After several years working as a mental health support worker in the public sector, I felt pulled to further develop my skills as a psychotherapist. I completed a postgraduate Diploma of Applied Psychology, specialising in psychotherapy, in 2022. I am now a registered professional counsellor candidate (RPC-C) offering counselling and psychotherapy services to individuals and couples.

I am deeply passionate about trauma awareness and consent culture, and I bring this foundation into all that I do. Through my own life experience, I have gained an understanding of what it means to feel safe within one's own body and this drives my desire to support and uplift others. As a therapist, some of the themes I will explore with you are attachment patterns, automatic thoughts, self-limiting beliefs, and emotion processing. With that said, I have the utmost trust in you to identify your priorities and goals in therapy.

I warmly welcome gender diverse, queer, and neurodivergent folks in a nonjudgmental approach that recognises the uniqueness of your story. You can expect a feminist, sex positive, and cultural safety focused approach from me, and I continuously welcome your feedback as I believe I have as much to learn from you as you do from me.

At this time, I am working with a registered clinical counselling supervisor as I continue to gain greater understanding and experience in providing counselling services.

## Melyssa Hudson, Clinical Counselling Student

Change can be hard, but with support, change is absolutely possible. Not only is it possible, but it is also calling you – today.

What I offer is the place to explore the depths of your courage, your inner wisdom, and your capacity to become who you want to be. Right now, in this moment, you know what is not serving you any longer, habits you want to break and thoughts you want to stop thinking.

But how do you make the shifts needed to step into this new version of yourself? With me.

I believe we need someone to walk alongside us to help us to make sense of change and trust in our innate capacity to weather the storms. By seeking support on your journey, you are taking the first and most challenging step: courage.



The immeasurable benefits of mental health counseling have supported dozens of individuals fleeing intimate partner violence (IPV) and other high risk situations over the past five months. According to Statistics Canada, 171 females were killed by intimate partner violence in 2020. One thing we know about IPV is that the aftermath impacts an individuals' ability to maintain employment thus decreasing economic independence. The emotional toll IPV takes on individuals can have long term impacts that are difficult to shake off without ongoing mental health support.

As a new counselor with the shelter, I cannot begin to describe the rewarding benefits of joining the team and this essential service for the community. The free counseling services has seen upward of 75 hours of counseling since the beginning of the year for over a dozen clients. The transformations that arise from ongoing and regular mental health support inject notions of self-agency, purpose, inclusion, and the ability to envision a life after intimate partner violence.

More to the envisioning is the reality of having a team supporting individuals each step of the way setting them up for success. There is a privilege of witnessing a client's journey through counseling and seeing them to the next phase of their life with confidence and hope.

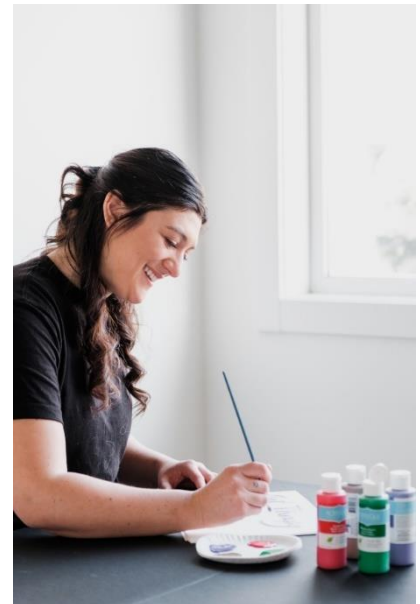
## Kutenai Art Therapy Institute Marina Rachinski – Student

Marina is passionate about helping individuals find their inner resources and process trauma. She has a background in dance, psychology and yoga. She is drawn to working with the Revelstoke Women's Shelter as she see's clients within their sociocultural context, understanding that women and non-binary folks are subject to different pressures and constraints to those influencing men. Survivors of domestic violence live under a patriarchal context. Under this context, socialization patterns tend to result in women giving away their power in relationships, often without being aware of it.



Marina holds a relational, trauma-informed, feminist and anti-oppressive framework.

Relational therapy aims towards a holistic approach, looking at the whole human, not just the mind or the body, but at the system and the sum of its parts. A trauma informed art therapy approach involves being more aware of safety and includes building resources such as mind-body regulation, community connections and self- esteem. As a feminist therapist, Marina will integrate a variety of strategies aimed at increasing autonomy and empowerment with her clients in a culturally sensitive manner. Marina believes in the power of the therapeutic relationship: we are hurt in relationship, and we can heal in relationship too.



## The Program

I started setting up in summer and September of 2022 and began seeing clients for sessions October 1st 2022. This year I have worked with individuals, dyads and families and held two rounds of trauma-informed womxn's art therapy groups through the Women's Shelter. This summer, I will continue with individual sessions and the women's group and add an open studio, drop-in style art therapy group at the shelter for staff and clients. I hope to add an additional eco-art therapy group for the Revelstoke community (including men) in the Fall.

Art therapy uses the expressive and self-reflective aspects of the creative process to address issues across the whole spectrum of human experience. It is a form of psychotherapy rooted in developmental psychology that uses art and self-expression to creatively explore and reconcile emotional conflicts, foster self-awareness, develop social skills, solve problems, reduce anxiety and increase self esteem. Art therapy can provide children, adolescents and adults with an opportunity for healing, psychological integration and personal growth. Art therapy is used in therapeutic treatment, prevention, and rehabilitation.

Art therapy is especially helpful for processing trauma as it is a non-verbal and sensory experience. Engaging with one's senses can be regulating and alleviate anxiety during therapy, helping people to feel grounded while processing their experiences. Trauma is stored in the body and is not always easy to access verbally. Art can help circumnavigate the defences of the conscious mind and allow unconscious material to be brought to light.

Working with images can be a way to express emotion and story without using words.

Making creative choices can be empowering, playful and a source of pleasure!

## Client demographics:

Total clients - 15

Age range: 8-64

Gender: Mostly women (12), some children (3)

Income: Low to middle socio-economic status

Cultural Identity: Canadian, Indigenous (6), Australian (2)

## Hours:

Direct client contact: 115.5

Indirect: 207.5

Total: 323

Weekly Average: 1

## Moving Forward: Education

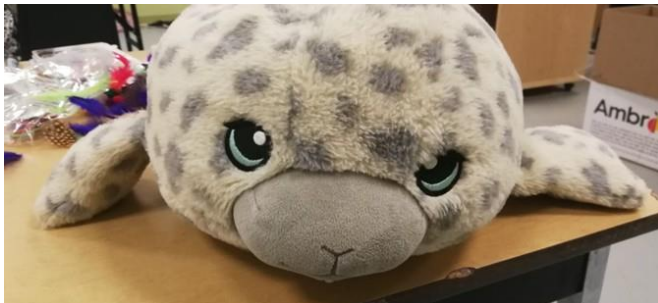
This year the Revelstoke Women's Sheltered partnered with Columbia Park Elementary to offer pro-social programming to grades five, six and seven. The intention of the group was to connect vulnerable children in a peer group setting where we model and support positive social relations with all group members. We offer drop-in programming two days per week, Tuesdays after school and Fridays at lunch. Our intention is to offer after school programming for children who would otherwise spend a large portion of the evening alone, and also provide programming for children who do not have many friends to be with at lunch or who want to stay inside and be creative.



We designed the program to be engaging and child centered, meaning we built the program largely out of their interests. The program consists of engaging activities such as art, crafts, games, dancing, cooking, baking, and more. We always offer the children a healthy snack, normally cheese, crackers, fruit, and a juice box. And sometimes a not so healthy snack when we bake!

We bring in a sense of safety and predictability for the children by starting every group meeting with snacks and a check-in with our trusty mascot potato (the seal stuffy). Potato is passed around to everyone in the group and everyone gets the chance to tell the group how they are doing today and answer one more question chosen by the group leaders to facilitate more connection in the group. Some question examples include; what is the hardest thing about school?

If you had a theme song for your week/ life, what would it be? If you had a million dollars what would you do with it? Children are always allowed to pass if they do not feel like answering any questions.



## Healthy Relationships and Consent Workshop

In February of 2023, the Revelstoke Women's Shelter delivered the Healthy Relationships and Consent Workshop that was created in collaboration with Community Connections. The purpose of this workshop is to provide youth with information about healthy relationships and consent while also providing them a space to explore current and past relationships and experiences in an open and supportive environment.

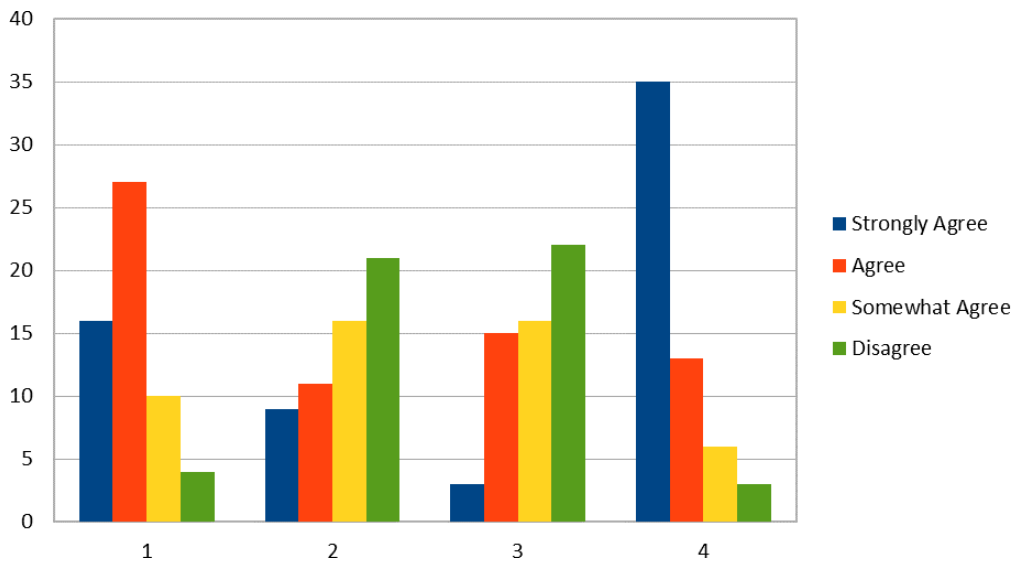
The Healthy Relationships part began by outlining how personal values guide our relationships. Participants explored their own values and identified how these inform their personal behaviour and needs in relationships.

We discussed how we express our values through our behaviours and words and how the expression of our values varies across relationships and from person to person. We explored a framework to identify whether or not relationships are moving in an unhealthy or healthy direction.

The Consent part explored the F.R.I.E.S acronym that stands for freely given, reversible, informed, enthusiastic and specific. Students engaged in activities to work through the intricacies of consent. We also discussed the legal age of consent in Canada, grooming, perpetrator responsibility, victim blaming, and statistics on sexual violence in Canada. Students could ask questions anonymously and were given local and provincial resources for support. We would like to thank the school staff and students for their willingness to engage and learn with us. We really enjoyed having the opportunity to teach and learn at the high school!

### Survey Questions

- 1) Overall, was the Healthy Relationship and Consent Workshop helpful?
- 2) Was the Healthy Relationship part relevant to your life right now?
- 3) Was the Consent part relevant to your life right now?
- 4) Do you think these are important topics to discuss?



## The Revelstoke Community Response Network 2022-23

Laura Stovel, Revelstoke CRN coordinator

The Revelstoke Community Response Network, under the Women's Shelter, is a network of local service providers who meet and collaborate to support vulnerable adults and prevent adult abuse. Our network includes the Women's Shelter, Community Connections and their Better at Home program, Hospice, the Seniors' Centre, Okanagan Regional Library, the Credit Union, the City's social development coordinator, the RCMP and, from Interior Health, the hospital administrator, social worker and homecare coordinator.



This year the CRN coordinator co-organized a speaker series on Safety for Seniors with the Revelstoke Credit Union. We presented two "It's not Right" workshops and one "See Something, Say Something" workshop. "It's Not Right" workshops are designed for neighbours and friends to identify what abuse is and ways to support those around them if they may be experiencing abuse. The "See Something, Say Something" workshop is for front-line workers, such as bank tellers, hair dressers and other service providers to identify potential abuse and know how to make referrals.



A big focus of our work last summer was to plan and coordinate support for vulnerable adults in the event of a heat wave. Having a network that includes such a broad group of services was very helpful in this effort, which complemented the City's emergency response work. The coordinator bought foil insulation and installed it in around 15 homes. She also bought fans and thermometers that were loaned out directly or through network organizations. The insulation, in particular, was very effective in mitigating heat in the homes of vulnerable adults.

In December we launched our first edition of the seniors' newsletter, *Revelstoke Senior Life*. The goal of the newsletter is to inform seniors and connect them with each other and with activities and services in Revelstoke. Each issue features an inspiring senior, an interesting article, sometimes written by a senior, and lists upcoming events and resources. This ties into emergency preparedness well as it provides another way of reaching seniors who might otherwise be isolated. The June issue featured information on preparing for a heat wave. The July issue will focus on staying safe and being prepared in the event of a heavy wildfire season.

We currently e-mail the newsletter to 141 people and we know it is shared well beyond that. We also print 50 copies for people who don't have computers and know these are also shared. Eventually we'd like to be able to reach at least half the seniors in Revelstoke. We are grateful for the financial support of the BC Community Response Network, the Revelstoke Credit Union and Columbia Basin Trust. We are also grateful for the strong support of the Revelstoke Women's Shelter and all our network members.

For more information about the Revelstoke CRN, to watch our videos or download our newsletters see: <https://revelstokewomensshelter.ca/crn/> You can also call 250-814-8971.

Our Program Funders



Womens Shelters Canada



Civil Forfeiture

## Canada Housing Benefit – Homelessness Prevention Program (CHB-HPP)

BC Housing wishes to reduce Housing Need by providing direct financial assistance to vulnerable households renting in non-subsidized rental Units who are not served by existing programs or where suitable community housing is unavailable

The purpose of the Canada British Columbia Housing Benefit (CBCHB) is to provide housing benefits to households living in non-subsidized rental units with incomes below the income limits. RWSS has a CHB-HPP contract with BC Housing to provide housing benefits to households that qualify for the program.



### Integrated Case Assessment Team (ICAT)

An ICAT is a partnership of local agencies, including police, community and police-based victim supports, child welfare, health, social service, and other agencies. The local partnership responds to referrals of suspected highest risk cases of domestic violence with a goal of increasing safety.

[www.endingviolence.org](http://www.endingviolence.org)



## RISE Women's Legal Centre

Family law is the most significant unmet legal need in BC. Rise Women's Legal Centre is helping to change that. RISE is a pro bono community legal clinic and teaching facility. It is based in Vancouver and serves women and gender diverse people all over BC.

Self-representation is tremendously challenging and many simply give up on family justice altogether, foregoing their rights to child and spousal support, sometimes even deciding not to leave unsafe partners at all. People can easily find themselves sacrificing their own safety and abandoning their legal rights – and perhaps those of their children – simply because they cannot afford to claim them.

Rise takes a flexible and innovative approach to providing legal services for those who don't qualify for legal aid and can't access a private lawyer. We provide a number of programs to meet different client needs. Over the years, the nature of our work has expanded – in addition to providing direct services to clients we now provide training and support to other anti-violence and community support workers, and conduct original research to inform policy advocacy and systemic change in the family law system.

The Revelstoke Women's Shelter started helping women through RISE Women's Legal Centre in October 2022, assisting women who may not otherwise be able to access legal assistance. RISE Women's Legal Centre provides free legal services for women and their families needing help under the family-law act. This includes divorce, protection orders, child and spousal support, people seeking protection from family violence, parenting time, H & C applications, poverty and equality law matters and other aspects under the Family Law and Divorce Act. Staff at the Revelstoke Women's Shelter help women access RISE Legal Services and help educate community members about local resources and information they can access for support.

The Revelstoke Women's Shelter has three transition house workers, who completed a training workshop with RISE, that are community partners with RISE Women's Legal Centre. They assist clients with completing RISE client intakes, provide a confidential space for zoom or telephone access, assist in completing legal aid applications, and may accompany clients to family law meetings and court appearances. Since October 2022, the Revelstoke Women's Shelter has helped 19 clients access RISE Women's Legal Centre.

We encourage anyone with questions to call and ask about the RISE Women's Legal Service program. RISE Women's Legal Centre uses a client-centered approach and provides amazing support to those who access their service.

Client intake line: 236-317-9000

General inquiries 604-451-7447

<https://womenslegalcentre.ca/>

## Coldest Night of the Year



CNOY Sponsors



## Our Board

### **Meg Irving – President**

Meg began working with woman and children fleeing abuse 20 years ago. She was in Victoria & East Vancouver B.C. before moving onto Ottawa, Ontario. After moving to Revelstoke eight years ago she got on-board with the Revelstoke shelter. She believes in supporting and elevating women and seeing where this intersects with community building.



### **Dustin Fransoo – Vice-President**

Dustin is a Lift Operations Manager at the local ski resort and has a young family. He brings his managerial experience to the shelter board. He finds value in this role as, for him, it is an opportunity to contribute back to the community.



### **Jocelyn Doll – Secretary**

Jocelyn is the assistant store manager at Fable Book Parlour. She believes that everyone should feel safe in their relationships and their communities, and believes the work that RWSS does contributes to that. She brings to the table a degree and seven years of experience in communications and community engagement.



### **Lisa Lamothe – Director**

Lisa has been on the board with the shelter for a number of years now. Her business expertise as an office manager assists the shelter's operations. She also has an understanding of social work with a diploma as a social service worker.



### **Hailey Lacroix – Director**

Hailey Lacroix is an elementary teacher at Revelstoke's Arrow Heights School. She joined the board to help spreading information about the programs and services the shelter offers. Having gone through a difficult separation herself, she found the online educational resources of the shelter valuable. Hailey helps manage the shelter's Instagram account.



### **Hannah Rawling – Director**

Hannah is an associate lawyer at Mackenzie Peak.



## Events

RWSS Hosted the December 6th event at Conversations Coffee Shop. Staff, clients, community partners and community members gathered to acknowledge and remember the December 6 National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women.

"The National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence against Women is about remembering those who have experienced gender-based violence and those who we have lost to it. It is also a time to take action. Achieving a Canada free from gender-based violence requires everyone living in this country to educate themselves and their families and communities on gender-based violence, centre the voices of survivors in our actions and speak up against harmful behaviours."



**Revelstoke Women's Shelter hosting a night to raise awareness for gender-based...**

Raise Your Voice will take place tonight at Conversations Coffee House

## Community Partners

Through committed engagement and collaboration with our community partners and local agencies, the Shelter is able to promote sustainability through meaningful partnerships. These community partnerships lead to improved client services, staff performance and community awareness.



RCMP Victim Services



Indigenous Friendship Society of Revelstoke



Community Connections

## Volunteers



Cards made by a volunteer are currently being sold at the Revelstoke Garden Centre and Beyond Gifts.

RWSS volunteers are a valuable addition to our team. Volunteers assist with gardening, lawn care, maintenance, program delivery delivering essential goods and fundraising.



Donations accepted through [CanadaHelps](#), personal cheques, e-transfers and fundraisers

Tax receipts available

<https://revelstokewomensshelter.ca/donate/>