

2018-2019 ANNUAL REPORT

Alberta Community Council on HIV



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What is the ACCH?

The Alberta Community Council on HIV is a non-profit, provincial member driven network of regionally based organizations. ACCH and its members have a collective responsibility to HIV and related issues and its outcomes at the provincial and local level. Through a social justice lens ACCH supports community-based responses to HIV, Sexually Transmitted and Blood Borne Infections, Sexual Health via advocacy, harm reduction, education, skills building training and health promotion.

Mission

ACCH provides provincial leadership through its collective voice to bring about social change with respect to the human and social impacts of HIV and related issues.

Vision

Our collective action will improve systems pertaining to HIV and related issues and enhance the lives of Albertans.

Role

The Alberta Community Council on HIV supports community-based responses and provides provincial leadership through collective action and a unified voice. The ACCH provides capacity building opportunities, policy research, advocacy and coordination. ACCH takes the lead in the following areas in HIV and related issues:

- Undertaking initiatives that are provincial in scope and benefit from the collective voice
- Providing leadership in identifying issues, policy input and research at provincial and federal levels
- Identifying systemic barriers and developing initiatives to address them
- Building relationships with provincial and federal leaders to elevate awareness and influence policy and resource allocation
- Identifying ways at the provincial level in which people at risk and those living with HIV and related issues can achieve greater involvement, or more meaningful involvement, in decisions affecting their lives
- Identifying ways at the provincial and federal level for the expansion of harm reduction services; including education, overdose prevention, reduction of the stigmas, safe consumption sites and access to quality healthcare.
- Providing services that can benefit from provincial economies of scale.
- Provides stewardship of funds for member organizations.

Board Chair Message

On behalf of ACCH Board of Directors would like to thank our funders who are partners in supporting the services of our organization in meeting the needs of our membership, which include Alberta Health and the Public Health Agency of Canada. We are very fortunate to have a team of people who are dedicated to the mission, vision, and values of the ACCH.

Our year was spent finishing up the 2016-2019 Strategic Plan and putting together the new 2020-2030 Long Range Strategic Plan. This process really showed us where we were and where we are going. The 28th Annual General Meeting in September 2019 will provide the first showcase for the new 2020-2030 Long Range Strategic Plan.

As we move forward into 2019-2020 the ACCH Board would like to take the time to acknowledge the ACCH member organizations and the Positive Voices Caucus for the amazing work you do, and the time you take to provide input and support to the ACCH. We would also like to welcome our new members, as the ACCH continues to grow to include new organizations into our collective. The ACCH exists at the will of its members, and we hope that 2019-2020 we can continue to grow into your expectations.

ACCH BOARD CHAIR,

Stacey Bourque

ACCH Board

Chair

Stacey Bourque, ARCHES

Vice-Chair

Leslie Hill, HIV Community Link

Treasurer/Secretary

Lori Phillips, HIV West Yellowhead

Director

Floyd Visser, The Sharp Foundation

Director

Melissa Byers, HIV North Society

Director

Stacey Carmichael, Turning Point

Caucus Chairs

POSITIVE VOICES CAUCUS

Chair

Paul Gabrielson

Current ACCH Staff

Executive Director

Celeste Hayward

Project and Finance Coordinator

Tammy Pfeiffer

Research and Policy Coordinator

Gabriel Asselin

Surveillance and Evaluation Coordinator

Bryan Slugget

Past ACCH Staff

Positive Voices Coordinator

Brook Biggin (left December 2018)

Strategy Coordinator

Morenike Olaosebikan (left June 2019)

ACCH Members

AAWEAR

Executive Director

Kevin Blanchette

www.aawear.org

ALPHA HOUSE

Executive Director

Kathy Christiansen

www.alphahousecalgary.com

ARCHES

Executive Director

Stacey Bourque

www.lethbridgearches.com

CENTRE FOR SEXUALITY

Executive Director

Pam Krause

www.calgarysexualhealth.ca

HIV COMMUNITY LINK

Executive Director

Leslie Hill

www.hivcl.org

HIV EDMONTON

Executive Director

Shelley Williams

www.hivedmonton.com

KIMAMOW ATOSKANOW FOUNDATION

Executive Director

Denise Lambert

www.treeofcreation.ca

LIVING POSITIVE THROUGH POSITIVE LIVING SOCIETY OF ALBERTA

Executive Director

Rob Poole

www.living-positive.net

NORTHEREACH SOCIETY (formally HIV North)

Executive Director

Melissa Byers

www.hivnorth.org

OPTIONS (formally HIV West Yellowhead)

Executive Director

Lori Philips

www.hivwestyellowhead.com

SAFEWORKS

Program Manager

Claire O'Gorman

www.albertahealthservices.ca

SAGITAWA FRIENDSHIP SOCIETY

Executive Director

Marissa Geldart

www.anfca.com/friendship-centres/peace-river/

SHINING MOUNTAINS LIVING COMMUNITY

Executive Director

Raye St. Denys

www.shiningmountainslcs.ca

SIKSIKA HEALTH AND WELLNESS CENTRE

Contact

Charlene Brough

www.siksikahealth.com

STONEY HEALTH SERVICES

Contact

Heila Lukas

www.stoneyhealth.com

STREETWORKS

Executive Director

Marliss Taylor

www.streetworks.ca

THE SHARP FOUNDATION

Executive Director

Floyd Visser

www.thesharpfoundation.com

TSUUT'INA HEALTH CENTRE

Contact

Shannon Beavis

www.tsuutinationation.com/tsuutina-health-centre

TURNING POINT

Executive Director

Stacey Carmichael

www.turningpoint-ca.org

ACCH Partners

Alberta Health and Wellness

www.health.alberta.ca

Alberta Health Services

www.albertahealthservices.ca

Canadian AIDS Society (CAS)

www.cdn aids.ca

Canadian HIV/AIDS Legal
Network

www.aidslaw.ca

CATIE

www.catie.ca

Canadian Treatment Action
Council (CTAC)

www.ctac.ca

Health Canada

www.canada.ca/en/health-canada.html

Interagency Coalition on AIDS
and Development

www.icad-cisd.com

Northern Alberta HIV Clinic

www.albertahealthservices.ca

Public Health Agency of
Canada

www.canada.ca/en/public-health.html

Southern Alberta HIV Clinic

www.albertahealthservices.ca

The Canadian Aboriginal AIDS
Network (CAAN)

www.caan.ca

Alberta Native Friendship
Centre Society (ANFCA)

www.anfca.com



POSITIVE VOICES CAUCUS

The Positive Voice Caucus – PVC, is a group of volunteers living with HIV that aim to support and advise ACCH in its projects; and to improve the life and health outcomes of PLWH in the province of Alberta.

This last year has brought several challenges; such as, a long hiatus due to the change of the PVC Coordinator and more recently the Chair.

As we review this year, however, is clear that we kept on track with our areas of focus

- Establishing and Fostering an Online Presence, through our media representation (website, ACCH Newsletter, collaborating with EMHC, exploring Instagram platform, securing a Summer student to support social media content, and promoting general education and awareness on HIV/STBBI/Addition).
- Advocacy, promoting dialogue with the Government of Alberta about HIV criminalization and collecting data on improving the lives of youth, recently diagnosed individual and aging populations living with HIV. Presence and collaboration in provincial and national health committees such as STBBI OSAP).
- Establishing a Positive Speaker's Bureau, executing workshops across the province and currently collecting the knowledge created in these gatherings to further the community connection of those living with HIV in Alberta.

As we move forward with a new Coordinator and Chair, we foresee the completion of projects, the start of new initiatives for people living with HIV in Alberta, and above all, a continued support to the great work ACCH has been promoting in our province.

ALBERTA BULK HARM REDUCTION SUPPLIES PURCHASING AND DISTRIBUTION PROGRAM

The ACCH and its member organizations started the Harm Reduction supplies purchasing and distribution program on April 2012. The goal of the program is to facilitate low barrier access to harm reduction supplies across Alberta to prevent the spread of STBBIs and promote healthier practices.

Since 2012, the program has undergone considerable growth in terms of clients reached, number of supplies provided, products offered, and distribution locations (rural, urban and on reserve). The program offers safer sex and first aid supplies to all members, and injection and drug using supplies to approved programs. This past year the ACCH started offering safe inhalation supplies to approved locations, including bowls, tubes, foil and push sticks. The program continues to be a crucial contact point and opportunity to engage clients in a conversation about harm reduction and offer other services, such as naloxone kits, wound treatment, opioid agonist therapy, and STBBI testing and treatment.

UNITS	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019
Needles and Syringes	3,850,800	4,494,623	5,476,290	5,311,600
Sharps Containers	12,765	17,635	35,381	45,826
Sterile Water	1,177,000	1,167,000	1,965,000	2,041,100
Cookers	439,000	573,000	1,063,000	982,000
Alcohol Swabs	2,564,200	2,707,600	3,874,800	4,159,000
Filters	732,500	1,050,000	1,748,000	990,750
Lip Balm	1,400	1,450	8,283	21,760
Condoms	3,481,648	651,743	1,118,376	1,093,230
Lubricants	194,216	268,464	322,088	262,604
Tourniquets	77,000	93,250	207,500	364,425
Gloves	300	9,220	29,730	221,990
Absorbic Acid Sachets	95,000	110,000	259,000	166,000
Wound Care	-	-	29,858	509,554
Inhalation Supplies		55	6,312	217,589

Compared to last year (April 2017 to March 2018), this year the number of needles distributed levelled off and did not increase for the first time since the program started. We believe there are several reasons for this trend: (a) more clients are now accessing supplies through the supervised consumption sites (SCS), which are not reported in these numbers; and (b) in response to the needle debris issue their communities, some agencies have reduced their needle distribution numbers. Along with the impacts of the SCS and needle debris, we will also be monitoring shifts in use as safe inhalation supplies roll out across sites.

The roll out of the first aid supplies last year was a great success! There was huge uptake on those products, with a 1600% increase in wound care supplies and 600% increase in gloves this year. There was also a 30% increase in sharp containers, which is a positive trend.

ACCHN NALOXONE PROGRAM

ACCH members involved in the Naloxone program (now called ACCHN by the Province) have had a very successful year. Since starting the provincial program in the summer of 2015, ACCH members have distributed 33% of total kits in Alberta (over 50,000 kits in total), despite representing less than 1% of registered distribution sites (there are 1,950 in Alberta).

Low barrier access to naloxone is more important than ever. A ground-breaking 2019 study in BC looking at the same harm reduction interventions Alberta uses found an estimated 3030 deaths (or 144 deaths per month) were averted during a 21-month period. Naloxone kit distribution was estimated to save 1580 of those lives. The ACCHN program is having similar life saving impacts on Alberta's opioid overdose crisis.

Naloxone Program Implementation: April 2015 to March 2019

UNITS	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019
Staff trained	161	309	344	486
Community members trained	3,148	4,234	6,983	7,805
Candidates trained	2,351	6,418	14,966	18,017
Hours of training	1,729	2,029	3,755	4,760
Kits dispensed	2,105	6,290	17,065	26,943
Kits used	230	1,492	3,743	4,812
Reversals	224	1,088	1,833	3,351

The community-based naloxone program continues to expand its impact. Compared to last year (April 2018 to March 2019), program sites increased their activity in several key areas:

58% increase of naloxone kits distributed

83% increase of reported reversals

18% increase of people provided naloxone training

Looking Ahead

ACCHN program funding is currently in renewal discussions this Fall. The goal is to continue funding the same initiatives as before and clarify some of the reporting. As part of improved program evaluation, members are currently involved in a number of activities, including: piloting Neo360 for monthly naloxone reporting; tracking partnership development; collecting pre/post naloxone training surveys from clients; and collecting reversal report forms.

¹ Irvine, M. et al. (2019). Modelling the combined impact of interventions in averting deaths during a synthetic-opioid overdose epidemic. *Addiction*.

FINANCIALS

Alberta Community Council on HIV

	Budget 2019 (Unaudited)	General 2019	ACHF 2019	General 2018	ACHF 2018	Total 2019	Total 2018
REVENUE							
ALBERTA HEALTH							
General Contributions	\$ 3,739,379	\$ 340,000	\$ 3,739,379	\$ 378,642	\$ 3,739,379	\$ 4,079,379	\$ 4,118,021
Harm Reduction Supplies	2,064,200	2,064,200	-	1,699,921	-	2,064,200	1,699,921
Community Based Take Home Naloxone Project	1,501,140	1,266,043	-	599,726	-	1,266,043	599,726
Supervised Consumption Services	147,867	58,461	-	641,539	-	58,461	641,539
Youth and Substance Abuse	65,000	61,549	-	-	-	61,549	-
PUBLIC HEALTH AGENCY OF CANADA							
General Contributions	1,470,000	-	1,130,000	-	1,130,000	1,130,000	1,130,000
ALBERTA CULTURE AND TOURISM							
Community Initiative Program	35,000	35,000	-	-	-	35,000	-
ViiV GRANT	11,700	5,261	-	-	-	5,261	-
HARM REDUCTION SUPPLIES							
Bulk purchase	-	337,111	-	30,122	-	337,111	30,122
MEMBERSHIP INCOME	-	1,750	-	1,575	-	1,750	1,575
OTHER INCOME	14,490	8,020	-	1,028	-	8,020	1,028
INTEREST INCOME	-	952	-	74	-	952	74
	\$ 9,048,776	\$ 4,178,347	\$ 4,869,379	\$ 3,352,627	\$ 4,869,379	\$ 9,047,726	\$ 8,222,006

	Budget 2019 (Unaudited)	General 2019	ACHF 2019	General 2018	ACHF 2018	Total 2019	Total 2018
EXPENSES							
ACHF operational funding (Note 11)	\$ 6,475,790	\$ -	\$ 4,869,379	\$ -	\$ 4,869,379	\$ 4,869,379	\$ 4,869,379
Harm Reduction Supplies (Note 12)	2,064,199	2,402,611	-	1,730,563	-	2,402,611	1,730,563
Community Based Take Home Naloxone Project	-	1,266,043	-	603,976	-	1,266,043	603,976
Supervised Consumption Services	-	58,444	-	641,546	-	58,444	641,546
Community Initiative Program	-	34,865	-	-	-	34,865	-
ViiV Expenses	-	5,261	-	-	-	5,261	-
Youth and Substance Use	-	61,549	-	-	-	61,549	-
Wages and Benefits	346,576	271,073	-	333,481	-	271,073	333,481
Equipment Rentals	1,000	731	-	717	-	731	717
Evaluation	3,243	3,380	-	-	-	3,380	-
Consulting Fees	52,427	12,996	-	-	-	12,996	-
Office	31,805	8,294	-	6,712	-	8,294	6,712
Other (Schedule 1)	14,900	15,069	-	15,123	-	15,069	15,123
Rent and Utilities	16,200	12,886	-	13,127	-	12,886	13,127
Skills Building	-	-	-	2,535	-	-	2,535
Vehicle and Travel	42,636	13,971	-	11,113	-	13,971	11,113
Amortization	-	390	-	680	-	390	680
	9,048,776	4,167,563	4,869,379	3,359,573	4,869,379	9,036,942	8,228,952
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenses							
	\$ -	\$ 10,784	\$ -	\$ (6,946)	\$ -	\$ 10,784	\$ (6,946)



ACCZ