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YANA President's Report Oct 1, 2015 AGM

In starting this annual tradition of reporting from the President's position, I want to start by sharing what an honor it is to be in this position with our productive, dedicated and fun-loving board, our supportive community and our incredibly brave families.

It is very important for me to take this opportunity to acknowledge two very special people. Marcie Dumais, in her role as Executive Director, continues to impress us all with her skill and ability to be so compassionate with our client families, to maintain YANA's important position and reputation in our community, to manage not just the office, but the apartments as well, and to do it all with a great deal of integrity and love. She is an inspiration and we are so proud to have her representing all of us.

One year ago we introduced you to our new Community Relations Coordinator, Ocean Varney. Ocean has been a valuable and integral part of YANA, carrying our message into the community in several ways. In particular I want to mention our social and our print media presence, the envy of a lot of other local non-profits! She plays a very important role coordinating and assisting with organizers of our third party events. It has been a pleasure watching as Ocean and Marcie do their magic together. We are so honored to have both of them.

We introduced our new website and logo before last year's AGM. As an entrenched Comox Valley organization we were able to maintain our strong history with a fresh new look, still easily recognizable. The ability to keep our website updated has really proven its worth this last year. Development of marketing materials with our new logo gives us a strong visual presence in the community.

Our YANA run events continue to exceed our financial goals. Many hours of volunteer time make these events possible.

We appreciate all of the donors who have made individual donations, corporate donations and sponsorships, and organized events to benefit YANA. We live in a generous community. We are proud to be the guardians of these funds and be able to provide our community's support to our families struggling with medical needs for their children as they travel away from home.

We continue to work towards our goals as developed in our Strategic Plan. This year we had several sessions working on our Values and Visions. Although we did not reinvent the wheel, for the first time in YANA's history we formalized this process and documented what is and always has been at the heart of our grass roots organization. The result of this heartfelt work is displayed for all to see in the original artwork on our wall. We are proud and we know that Sandra Williams and all of the Boards and volunteers before us would be proud as well.

Thank you for a successful and rewarding year.