

President Report – Annual General Meeting November 16 2023

Thank you for coming out tonight. Hasn't it been nice to not have had to return to Zoom meetings. So much better seeing people in person.

As usual when staff isn't busy helping our many clients and their families much of time is spent planning for the Big Love Benefit and the Comox Bike Co YANA Ride.

The Comox Bike Co YANA Ride held in August of 2022 was a "party in the park event." It was a ride what you want, when you want, how far you want event and join us in Marina Park for a party to celebrate. Over \$85,000 was raised for YANA families and there were lots of smiles and laughs while meeting up in the park.

We were finally back to an in-person Big Love Benefit in February 2023 where we saw many familiar as well as new faces. Although there were a couple challenges, the community came out again and supported Comox Valley families to the tune of \$205,000!

Huge thanks to staff and volunteers for the hundreds of hours involved in creating both events, and thank you to the sponsors for the continued love and support. Of course, next year will be bigger and better. I will leave it to Kelly Barnie and Shormila Bakshi to report further on that.

As always Staff and the Board are heavily involved in everything YANA does, but the contribution of volunteers and the support of the community cannot be overlooked. Community led fundraising and donations continue to be an important part of the annual revenue for YANA.

Again, this year, as a result of the work of YANA staff, along with the incredible financial support from the community for this organization YANA continues to be in a strong financial position I'll leave the details for the treasurer Sarah Corrigan and Kelly Barnie to provide more details.

It is always sad to see board directors leaving us. This year say thank you and good bye to Nadia Rowe, Lesley Hunter, and Ashley Smith who are leaving the board after this

meeting. After 6 years I am stepping down as President this year but will remain on the board in a different role. We have 4 new directors joining us and we are looking forward to working with them.

After 37 years, the community continues to honour the legacy of Sandra Williams and support YANA in tremendous and unexpected ways. This has been my 12th year on the board, and I continue to feel very fortunate to be involved with YANA and to have met the people I have. To the board, the staff and volunteers, thank you for all you do. To our clients and families, You are Not Alone, you have a whole community behind you.