



2021/2022 Annual Report

Building tomorrow TOGETHER



CARA BAHR
CEO,
YWCA Saskatoon

JODI MANASTYRSKI
Board Chair,
YWCA Saskatoon
Board of Directors

A Year to REFLECT

A message from the Board Chair & CEO:

As the COVID-19 pandemic continued its path of disruption, the YWCA faced many challenges this year. While much of the fear associated with the pandemic had eased, its true impact on the organization and the women we serve is just beginning to be understood. When faced with adversity, it can be difficult to imagine the experience will eventually lead to some type of growth but, organizationally that's exactly what happened. The pandemic forced us to become flexible, more agile and gave us the opportunity to scrutinize the way we provide service. This inward focus led to some tough conversations and hard decisions.

In June 2022, the board made the difficult decision to permanently shut down the pool. This decision was not taken lightly and a thorough analysis was undertaken. Pool usage had been steadily declining for the last decade and the pool required significant capital repairs. It simply wasn't financially sustainable to continue its operation. We'd like to take this opportunity to express our sincere gratitude to the pool supporters for your patronage. We are grateful you chose the YWCA as your pool of choice. You made our facility a true community space and we will always consider you a part of the YWCA family.

Despite the obstacles of the last year we accomplished some remarkable things. Some of these successes include:

- Partnering with the Aboriginal Friendship Centres of Saskatchewan to review

operating policies and procedures from an Indigenous lens

- Launching a new advocacy program called Upstander, focused on unpacking harmful gender norms and stereotypes
- Hosting our first in-person Women of Distinction Awards in 3 years and it was our most successful to date
- Launching a new website and marketing strategy
- Successfully implementing the new provincial childcare subsidy

The 2022/2023 fiscal year will be one of significant change and growth. Isolation and increased financial instability have significantly increased the demand for our crisis support services. We know we need to do more. That's why the board approved an 18-unit expansion of our crisis shelter and residence. We have big plans to increase impact and remove more barriers for women and girls. Details will be shared soon.

On behalf of Jodi and myself, I'd like to extend our sincerest gratitude to all of you. To our donors and funders, thank-you for continuing to believe in the work that we do. To the fierce and compassionate women on our board, thank-you for your service and leadership. To our employees, you are the heart of the YWCA, thank-you for your tireless efforts.

As we build for the future let us remember that "Once you have glimpsed the world as it might be, it is impossible to live anymore complacent in the world as it is." -Anonymous.

Much respect and gratitude,

Cara Bahr
Chief Executive Officer

Jodi Manastyrski
Board Chair



Leadership TEAM



Cara Bahr
Chief Executive Officer



Carla Delgado
Director of Development & Engagement



Josh Pion
Director of Operations



Kim Fisher
Director of Residential Programs



Shumi Zaman
Director of Early Learning



Fred Dyck
Director of Fitness & Facilities



Natasha Martynes
Director of Employment & Learning

Board of Directors

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Kathryn Bankowski



Crisis Shelter & RESIDENCE

The YWCA Saskatoon Crisis Shelter and Residence continues to be a safe, stable foundation for healing and growth by empowering women to gain independence, education, employment, housing and financial security.

This year, a focused and strategic plan for safety within the shelter was implemented and included the following:

- **Assistant Manager hired to work evenings and weekends to support staff**
- **After hours Crisis Counselor to work on Residence floor, 5 nights per week, to support residents in the evenings/nights/weekends and to provide additional assistance to Crisis Counselors in Shelter**
- **Replacement of radios for staff communication**
- **Developed safety related policies in shelter**

294

Women served

123

Children served

76

Families served

10

At-risk youth served





CS&R cont.

Reasons for stays

14%	Addictions
20%	Domestic violence
8%	Mental health
13%	Unsafe housing
45%	Other

This past year also focused on reconciliation. With a grant secured from the Saskatoon Housing Initiative Program (SHIP), we were able to offer a variety of specialized programming and services to our residents and staff this year. Some of this programming included:

- **Medicine Wheel teachings and healing and sharing circles.**
- **Smudge and traditional teachings.**
- **Grief and addictions talks.**

- **Able to offer Indigenous programming and access to Elders for our residents.**
- **Grant provided funds to purchase Indigenous art and cultural supplies for the shelter and residence.**
- **Staff participated in a Traditional painting workshop and also partook in Cultural Sensitivity Education training.**

The Youth Programming at the YWCA continues to provide a safe place to stay, short and long term support, and a place for young women in precarious situations to call 'home'.

Support in these programs looks like many things, often representing consistency, trust, and being there for the youth on both the easy and the hard days they endure.

Our youth housing and programming also represents a sense of 'home' to many of the clients. This can look like sitting down together for a homemade meal during the holidays, and providing a safe space to express emotions and stay in control of their personal choices.

4231

**Women & children
turned away**

CS&R cont.

During the duration of their stay, women and youth in our shelter have access to a variety of optional programs and services to support physical and emotional healing and wellness.

Our staff ensure that each woman who enters our shelter has the appropriate care they need and want to take part in on their wellness journeys.

Wellness programming encompasses many things, cultural programming, nutritional programs, access to the Fitness on 25th facilities, and other services offered by the Community Service Village attached to the YWCA Saskatoon. There are 4 Wellness beds in the program.

Wellness Updates

2

Clients moved to Mental Health Approved Homes

3

Clients moved on to independent living situations (own apartments)





Employment & LEARNING

Women Shifting Gears is a unique, three-phased program designed to empower women and develop their skills to enter the transportation industry as a Class 1A Professional Truck Transport Driver.

This is Darla's story.

When Darla saw the advertisement for the Women Shifting Gears program, she knew immediately that it was for her. Being employed in the trucking/transport industry had always been a dream career. Even though she lacked the confidence to pursue her dream, she was comforted by the fact that she could have the opportunity to work with other women, with the same goals... so she took the first step and applied.

From first contact, Darla's determination and work ethic were apparent. After completing all the requirements of the recruitment process, she was thrilled to find out she had been accepted into the Women Shifting Gear's program – Cohort 2.

During the program, Darla took full advantage of the services provided, and was always asking questions and finding out ways on how she could improve her employability skills.

She was able to complete all the MELT modules, assignments and training within the 12 weeks and was getting closer and closer to achieve her goal. Shortly after, she passed the SGI 1A knowledge tests.

60%

of participants have successfully secured full-time, entry-level positions in the trucking/transport industry.

80%

of participants accomplished MELT 'in class' certification from SGI.

After practicing her interviewing skills and handing out resumes, she began to see results.

"I'm 100% more confident and happier with myself! I just believed in myself!"

All her hard work and commitment to the program had paid off, for she received multiple job offers. Darla chose to begin her career with a local trucking company, in the transport division.

Her new employers are supportive and have been providing an excellent training program. Darla understands the different positions available throughout the company and has started out with driving a 5-ton. She is thoroughly enjoying her new position and is working her way up to the big rigs. Her next goal is to complete driver training and receive a 1A driver's license.

"Thank you for this wonderful experience and assisting me in getting my 1A Learners, First Aid, CPR... All of the skills I have acquired in this course will be useful to me for the rest of my life."



Trade JOURNEY

The Trade Journey Program is a 16-week course that offers the ability for women to experience trades, build confidence, and enhance the skills necessary to enter traditionally male-dominated fields.

cohort
13

had 14 graduates from
the program

cohort
14

had 12 graduates from
the program

cohort
15

had 13 graduates from
the program

“Looking back, I am proud that I never let a challenge intimidate me. I can be a small woman in the trades.”

It was designed for women who like working with their hands and who already have some experience in construction, renovation, mining, or maintenance positions, as well as those who want to transition into a trades career.

“My instructors are my biggest supports. They believed in me when no one else did. My classmates showed me how not to give up.”

Participants of the Trade Journey program explore various trades through basic training and projects in order to decide which one fits best, along with a built-in fitness program to help build physical fitness and strength at the worksite. The program also provides Personal Protective Equipment and assists in getting all the necessary safety tickets needed.

“Trade Journey was everything I could have hoped for and more. I would recommend it to anyone who needs a change of career or is not afraid to work hard.”

95%

of participants self-reported as having secured/maintained employment commensurate with their training, knowledge, skills and experience



Child Development (CENTER)

Each year, the growth experienced within the Child Development Centre is exciting! This past year, the Centre was completely full; committed to providing childcare to children from all cultural, ethnic, religious, and socio-economic backgrounds.

The children we serve in our Child Development Centre are a reflection of the YWCA Saskatoon's commitment to diversity and inclusion.

"My experience with the YWCA has been nothing short of amazing.

It has helped me excel as a single mother and has given me all the resources I could need to find housing, childcare, and take different courses to improve my resume and my life skills. I have completed a couple computer courses in their Employment and Learning program and am currently 2 weeks from graduating from their Women in Trades program; which also gave me access to their fitness center, online fitness programs, mindfulness, mental health courses, a variety trades training, and First Aid Training.

The employees of the YWCA are encouraging and welcoming, it has felt like a safe haven for my son and I. I hope to give back to them, as much as they have given to me."

**-Naomi
YWCA Saskatoon client**

20%

Indigenous families

20%

**Families on
Government subsidy**

48%

**New Canadian
families**

16%

**Children with
diverse needs**

**62
FAMILIES**

**with children aged 18
months - 6 years old
utilized the Child
Development Centre in
the past year.**





Fitness on 25th
YWCA

Fitness on 25TH

The 2021/2022 year proved to have a bittersweet ending for Fitness on 25th with the permanent closing of our beloved swimming pool. Aquatic programming has been an integral part of our health and wellness program for decades. In fact, 2022 marked the 65th year of aquatic activities and programs.

What a long legacy! From kids swim lessons and aqua fitness, to lane swimming, our pool was a hub of activity. It is impossible to know how many kids learned to swim at the YWCA over the past 65 years. Through our popular Red Cross Swim Kids Program, we annually helped around 400 kids improve their water safety and swim skills. It's safe to say the number of kids who learned to swim at the YWCA is in the 10's of thousands.

Aqua Fitness was always a strong component of our aquatic programming. Featuring warm, soothing water, our aqua fitness program supported a dedicated community of members who saw the Y as more than just a place to swim. This home away from home helped build friendships and comradery across ages and genders.

The pool was used by numerous groups over the years including Aqualenes and the YWCA-created Just Tri It Program. Despite the severe limitations and impact the Covid-19 Pandemic placed on our

Aquatic programming, we successfully kept classes and lane swims going. Giving those who wanted and needed the health benefits of our aquatic programs a safe place to stay active.

We are excited to see how our Employment and Learning Department will use this space.



Some highlights from this year included:

- **35,895 visits to the fitness centre**
- **An additional 2,900 times a member attended one of our virtual fitness classes**
- **Gym and other facility rentals generated over \$46,000 in revenue for the fiscal year. This included rentals for martial arts, basketball, volleyball and other activities**
- **Introduction of Red Cross CPR/First Aid training as a new service in the spring of 2022**



Women of DISTINCTION



Since 1982, the Women of Distinction Awards has been nationally recognized as a highly prestigious award for women. Our annual awards ceremony has honoured hundreds of women for their inspirational leadership and extraordinary contributions to our community, celebrating the best achievements and most meaningful initiatives.

This past May, the YWCA Saskatoon held the **40th year** of the awards, celebrating strong, female leaders and visionaries in our community who are *lighting the way* with the help of our lead sponsor, Graham Construction.

All proceeds from the Women of Distinction Awards events go towards the YWCA Saskatoon and the important programs and services we provide for women, youth, and children in Saskatoon.

Not only was this past year the 40th year of the awards, but it also fundraised the most funds it ever has, to support the YWCA Saskatoon.

The Development and Engagement team headed by Carla Delgado, and the WOD

Chair this past year, Dorothy Slawinski, orchestrated an unforgettable night with the help of a dedicated and hard-working volunteer committee.

With 29 nominees in ten categories, and one Lifetime Achievement recipient, the awards were a huge success.

Darlene Bessey, a past CEO of the YWCA Saskatoon, and advocate for our programming, received the prestigious 'Lifetime Achievement' award. She presented an inspiring speech at the awards ceremony.







Summarized FINANCIAL RESULTS

The YWCA Saskatoon is committed to offering its clients the greatest possible variety and quality of programs and services. This is achieved through efficient operations, conservative administration costs and effective use of core funding and donor support.

Administration costs as a percentage of total expenses were **12%**.

Development costs were **6%**.

**Summarized results are for the
YWCA Saskatoon Operating Fund.**

REVENUE

Government Contracted Programs	61%	\$2,980,330
Fee for Service & Facility Rentals	23%	\$1,087,935
Fund Development & Grants	16%	\$792,306
Other Income	0%	\$9,728
TOTAL	100%	\$4,870,299

EXPENDITURES

Crisis Shelter & Residence	43%	\$2,136,291
Employment & Learning	26%	\$1,297,291
Child Development Centre	19%	\$973,267
Fitness on 25th	12%	\$619,509
TOTAL	100%	\$5,026,359



Thank you To our DONORS & SPONSORS

We are grateful to every one of our donors for supporting and believing in our programs. We regret any errors or omissions. Thank you to our donors, sponsors, and to those who wish to remain anonymous.

100+

Alice Horner	Donna Wiens	Knights Of Columbus Sheptytsky
Alison Murawsky	Donna Zelmer-Gammel	Council #4938
Allen Geeraert	Dorothy Sorensen	Lana Lowe
Allison Hackinen	Dorothy P. Sagan	Laura Chyzowski
Allyce Strudwick	Doug and Arlene Drader	Lea Pennock
Amanda Andre	Doug Hingston	Leif Friggstad
Andrea Harris	Doug Maurer	Lenore Schmidt
Anissa Van Dusen	Edith M. Shannon	Leona Theis
Ann Coxworth	Edna Kehrig	Leone How
Arlene M. Rey	Eileen Dahl	Lesley Biggs
Arlene Sanderson	Elaine Patterson	Linda and Russell Noble
Atul Dhir	Elizabeth Ireland	Linda Suveges
Audrey Mortson	Ella Ophir	Lisa Thomaidis
Barbara Macpherson	Elva M. Nixon	Lise Chartier Ketilson
Barbara Sprigings	Erin Lang	Lois Jarvis
Barry Blakley	Eventbrite	Lorraine Mickleborough
Bernard & Geraldine Paproski	Frances Lapointe	Louise Hartz
Bette Ann M. Green	Frances Newell	Maddi Ewert
Betty J. Matchett	Gale Paske	Madeleine Dahlem
Bonita Lundberg	Genevieve Salamon	Magdalena Richter
Bradley Evenson	Glenda McCormick	Marcel and Alison Gorgendiere
Brenda de Bakker	Gord Kostiuik	Marcia Clark
Brenda Lyons	Gordon Barkway	Margaret Sarjeant
Brenda Shular	Greg&Henny Boschman	Margo Couldwell
Buckberger Baerg & Partners LLP	Grosvenor Park United Church	Margot Weiner
Carla Delgado	Iain Luke	Marina Lawson
Carol Demchuk Kosolofski	Ida Martynas	Marlene Smale
Carol Kost	Irene Joyes	Marnie Deighton
Caroline Joa	Jackie Crosby-Cuthill	Maureen Larkin
Chad Gervais	Jackie Stokvis-Flaherty	Meridith Burles
Chad Landstrom	Jaime Waroway	Mick and Lorraine Ellis
Chelsa Materi	Jammie T. Townsend	Mildred Kerr
Christine and Mark Epp	Jan Early	Moms Pantry
Christine Roberge	Jan Spencer	Monika Angele
Clearwater Ventures Inc.	Jane McPhee	Murray Gross
Colby Ard	Janet and Louis Christ	Nancy C. Allan
Constance Plotzki	Janet MacFarlane	Natalie Sharma
Cynthia Block	Janice Seebach	Newcomers Alumni
Dana Kripki	Jeannette A. Ambrose	Nora Abouguendia
Danny Freire	Jennifer Marlin	Noreen Kneeland
Darlaine Bentley	Jerry Demeria	Norm and Charlene Shuttleworth
Darlene Hay	Jessica Buhler	Pam Kilgour
Darrell Balkwill	Jill Thomson	Pat Buglass
Dave & Glenda McGillivray	Jo Scappaticci	Patricia Cone
Dawn Linnick	Joan Fowler Thomson	Patricia Mar-Collier
Dayle Armstrong	Joan Lidington	Phyllis Cameron
Deborah Parker-Loewen	Joan MacDonald	Plaxton Jensen Lawyers
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Diane Higgins	Jocelyn Zurakowski	Renita Falkenstein
Diane M. Waterer	Joyce Sarauer	Richard McCormick
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Don Reimer	Kasya Naidu	Sandra Blevins
Donald McMartin	Katherine Menzies	Sara Knowles
Donna Kolenowski	Kathleen Crowther	Sarah Colwell
Donna Rederburg	Kathy Ratzlaff	Sarah Tehseen
Donna Schindel	Keir Vallance	Saskatchewan Mutual Insurance Co
	Kenneth Weisgerber	Saskatoon Community Contact for the
	Kim Hanson	Widowed

Scott & Susan Bayne
Shan Landry
Shannon Scott
Sharon Roset
Sheila Flory
Shirley Haskins
Shirley Henderson
Shirley Kloeble
Susan Gingell
Tamra Kostiuk
Tara Kooy
TD Bank
Ted and Sharon Cardwell
Terri Woods
Thomas Ellis
Thor Kristiansen
V. Lynne Pearson
Wally Hand
Wanda Drew
Wendy White
Wilfrid Denis
Yvonne Weitzel

500+

Algorithm Ingredients Inc.
Alma Wiebe
Andrew Peller Limited
Anita Zadorozny
Ashley Smith
Betty Halderman
Beverley James
Bob and Rita Mirwald Flow Through
Fund
Bob Racine
Brian & Donna Dent
Brittany Walter
Cherry Insurance
Cheryl Waslen
Cindy Manderscheid
Crys Peterson
CUPE Saskatchewan
Curtis and Shanna R. Bell
Darlene G. Bessey
Debra Wheler
Donna Scott
Dr. Gordon and Betty Bray Memorial
Fund
Elizabeth Clelland
Eric Dayton
Essence Recruitment
Evelyn Burnett
Glen Penner
Gordon and Moira Birney Memorial
Fund
Heather Sully
Helen Nichol
Jackie Procyshyn
Jean and Ernest Pryor
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Judith Hilton
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Kim Sapara
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Leela Sharma
Lexi Jamieson
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Natasha Koechl
Nedeene Hudema
Novakoski Quality Collision Ltd.
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Rachelle Zentner
Raegan Pollard
Randy and Doreen Chapman
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Union
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Partnership
Saskatoon Media Group
Saskatoon Medical Staff Association
SaskTel Pioneers Bridge City Club
Selma McMahon
Sharyle Fowler
Sheila Denysiuk
Sun Life Financial
Susan Mcconkey
Susanne Sebestyen
Tammy Richmond
Tantrix Body Art Inc.
Terri Lemke
The Rock Church
Wayne Pederson
Wendy and Terrance Busa

2500+

Baydo Development Corp
Bit Service Company Ltd.
Cara and Scott Bahr
Ehrenburg Homes Ltd
Gladys Hall Fund
Gordon & Peggy Racine Family Fund
HD Engineering & Design Ltd.
Honorable Patricia M. Blacklock Linn
Fund
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Lynn Timmerman
McDougall Gauley LLP
MLT Aikins
Points Athabasca
Q-Line Trucking
Sask Power
Saskatchewan Indian Gaming Authority
Inc.
Saskatoon Co-operative Association
Ltd.
Sceptre United Church
Timothy and Bonnie Gitzel

\$5000+

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BHP Billiton Canada Inc.
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Chyzowski Charitable Foundation Inc.
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Mrs. and Mr. Linda and Dave Dunkley
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Ltd.
Royal LePage Shelter Foundation
Saskatchewan Blue Cross

Stephen and Michelene Worobetz
Foundation
Tamara Powder
The Grandey Family Foundation Inc
Triton Transformer Corporation
United Way Saskatoon & Area
University of Saskatchewan
Vern and Clara Welker Fund
Women's Shelters Canada
YWCA Opportunity Shop

Government Contracts

Ministry of Education
Ministry of Immigration & Career
Training
Ministry of Justice and Attorney
General
Ministry of Social Services
Saskatoon Health Region



YWCA SASKATOON
510 25th Street East
Saskatoon SK, S7K 4A7
ywcaskatoon.com

