# TBDCCEWA **ANNUAL REPORT** 2020/2021



THUNDER BAY AND DISTRICT COORDINATING COMMITTEE TO END WOMAN ABUSE

# VISION

We work with a network of individuals, groups and organizations to establish and support a comprehensive and effective community response to end woman abuse.

We advocate for the safety and wellbeing of women and children, for the accountability of men who use violence, and for a safer, healthier community for everyone.

Informed by an Anti-Oppressive and Anti-Racist framework, we aim:

- To ensure that there is an effective and coordinated response to violence against women in Thunder Bay and the surrounding District;
- To ensure that the fundamental causes of violence against women and children, whether perpetrated by institutional or social structures, patriarchy, social policies or agencies, are addressed within the social system's response to women abuse;
- To advocate for changes in laws and policies that govern systemic responses to violence against women.

# MISSION

We envision a community where women and children are safe, valued and free from abuse.

We recognize the gendered and racialized nature of intimate partner violence,and work collaboratively to effect necessary change at the systems level.

We believe that everyone is ultimately accountable for the safety of women and children, and we support the sharing of appropriate information in effort to ensure it.

We value diversity, believe in shared responsibility, and actively engage in respectful collaboration at our table and within our community.



## CHAIR REPORT

Covid has been our constant throughout this year of the Committee coming together. We have met by zoom each and every month and changed our interactions to checking in with each other at the beginning of the meetings and then carrying on with the business of the Committee. The stories of our experiences of survivors and their children during this time is frightening. These stories combined with an almost total lack of access to any of the courts has left many of the Committee Members being challenged on how to continue to support survivors and their children to be safe, do effective risk assessments etc.

Our challenges with the lack of access to the courts has seen us develop a VAW Task Force Committee with its goal to work with members of the Justice system to find ways (perhaps form local agreements) to will help us keep survivors and their children safer. At the same time to educate Justice members on the experience of the people we serve and the vast impact the lack of court services has on their lives.

Our Coordinator, Katie Watson, has worked diligently with the committee all year to support members, capture our work, to organize the VAW task force and to build a new website. Thank you Katie for all that you do often behind the scenes and know you are the "glue" keeping us moving forward.

### DEBBIE ZWEEP DEBORAH DIKA CO-CHAIRS



### COORDINATORS REPORT

It has been an incredibly challenging year - and that is putting it politely. There is no sense in denying just how difficult it has been to stay connected in meaningful ways during intense and extensive periods of isolation. We as a collective have been provoked into what seems like a drawn out series of uncertain and complicated events that has lasted for longer than anyone could have anticipated. As individuals, we have been set up against some of the most difficult circumstances and often asked to solve the impossible. Faced with barriers and hurdles along the way, Covid-19 has exacerbated an already very complicated sector of our community. And while there is no denying just how hard it has been, I am continuously humbled by the collective of this committee. I have been honored to be surrounded by an entire team of mobilizers; a team of people who when faced with impossible decisions don't sit back with hands in the air, but instead stand up taller and reach out to one another for support. A group of people who have dedicated their lives to ensuring that in the face of injustice, we stand together, united and with fierce determination. The pandemic has created a new set of challenges, and has allowed for our systems to fail us more than they ever had before. This committee shows me time and time again that even when the systems in place fail to protect the women we serve, that the mobilizers will stand up and fight. I want to thank each and every one of you who continues to show up, and who, despite the overwhelming challenges we are facing on all levels, ask "what can we do to fix this?" Your tireless efforts to keep going do not go unnoticed, and I am grateful for your guidance in the movement that this committee continues to maintain. I am hopeful that the year ahead will continue to inspire us to move together in collaborative ways.

In Solidarity, Katie Watson Coordinator

# FINANCIAL REPORT

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### Faye Peterson House General Ledger Report 04/01/2020 to 03/31/2021 DVCCC

Revenue		
MCCSS Funding	24,516.00	
	3,938.00	
Expenses		\$ 28,454.00
Advertising & communication	8,301.01	
Insurance	1,157.76	
Wages	18,995.23	
		\$ 28,454.00

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# BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Abi Sprakes Deboyah Dika Debbie Zweep Geven O'Reilly Lee-Ann Chevette Rhea Starkes Rose Viel Susan White

## MEMBERSHIP

ANISHINABEK POLICE SERVICE CATHOLIC FAMILY DEVELOPMENT CENTRE CENTR'ELLES CHILDREN'S AID SOCIETY OF THE DISTRICT OF THUNDER BAY COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVE FAYE PETERSON HOUSE LAKEHEAD UNIVERSITY SOCIAL WORK DEPARTMENT MARJORIE HOUSE MUNICIPALITY OF GREENSTONE'S COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT NORTHWESTERN ONTARIO WOMEN'S CENTRE ONTARIO PROVINCIAL POLICE SEXUAL ABUSE CENTRE THUNDER BAY SEXUAL ASSAULT/DOMESTIC VIOLENCE TREATMENT CENTRE THUNDER BAY AND AREA VICTIM SERVICES THUNDER BAY COUNSELLING THUNDER BAY CRIME PREVENTION COUNCIL THUNDER BAY AND DISTRICT HEALTH UNIT THUNDER BAY POLICE SERVICE THUNDER BAY PROBATION & PAROLE SERVICES VICTIM/WITNESS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

# YEAR IN REVIEW

#### In Partnership:

- High Risk Navigation Project
- Community Safety & Wellbeing Plan
- Youth Tech-Facilitated Violence Campaign

#### Training & Education:

- B-Safer Training
- Anti-Oppression & Anti-Racism Webinar
- Tech-Facilitated Violence Webinar
- Analysis to Action Gender Based Violence Think Tank

### <u>Projects:</u>

- Covid-19 VAW Task Force
- Website Renewal

# LOOKING AHEAD

- Establish a system response to direct the Covid-19 Task Force
- Act as advisory to the Community Safety & Wellbeing Plan
- Website launch: September 2021
- Youth-Tach Facilitated Violence Campaign

