



DIXON TRANSITION SOCIETY Annual Report 2013-2014

Vision Statement

Women and children are free from violence.

Mission Statement

To raise awareness about and to provide a continuum of services including safe housing, support, counselling and education for women and children impacted by violence.

Our Values

Respect - celebrating individuality and diversity

Trust - providing an environment of safety, confidentiality and security

Acceptance - freedom of choice and unconditional support

Education - increasing awareness of the issues and impacts of violence against women

Message from the Board Chair

Dear Friends,

As I complete my first year as the Chair, I am grateful to have had this opportunity to serve an organization that values women and introduces them to new possibilities and empowers them to overcome any barriers.

In the last year, I have had the responsibility and pleasure of working with the Executive Director and our amazing team to develop a number of frameworks to help us move forward. Over the past year, four of our Board members, Zeenat Ali, Afroza Samji, Jennifer Diep and Jennifer Geneve have resigned and we thank them for all their contributions. We are also delighted to welcome our new members Ken Kramer, Kuldip Taggar, Haydee Windey and Satnam Lalli and look forward to working with them in the year ahead.

As we reflect upon the last year, a common theme becomes clear: A focus on partnerships that Matter! Thanks to many partnerships, what started as a dream became a reality. An example of the generosity is Home Depot, Burnaby. In addition to fundraising for us and providing us with a grant and a donation in kind, their staff painted the bedrooms and bathrooms in the Transition House. This gift became the spring board for other partnerships.

2013 was the third year of our three year Strategic Plan and I am happy to report that we met all our priorities. The review of our Strategic Plan was an inclusive and participatory process. Our plan identified strategic partnerships and will continue to be used as a planning guide and filter for our day – to –day operations. We will also use it to help us monitor our progress and performance. Our Strategic Plan forms a framework for the agency and a guide for developing partnership opportunities.

Resource Development and increased pressure on resources and funding are major challenges that Transition Houses and our partners face. We know we must steward existing relationships and partnerships in order to be successful. However, we also look ahead with anticipation as we foster new partnerships that will help us ensure sustainability and build for the future.

We are committed to continuing this journey. We will continue to hold ourselves accountable to achieving the highest standards of performance and transparency for the benefit of our clients and their families, our donors, partners and the community.

Finally, we would like to recognize and thank our Funders, Donors, our Staff and Volunteers and the Community. You all work tirelessly, with loyalty and commitment, to make a difference in the lives of so many. Many thanks!

Respectfully submitted by,
Alison Silgado, Board Chair

Executive Director's Report

The 2013-2014 fiscal year was a year of change, updates, success stories and celebration of Dixon Transition Society's 40 years of service to the incredible women and children we have had the honor of serving.

We were the recipient of generous donations from individuals, businesses and foundations who provided in-kind and monetary support to our Society. Because of these supporters, we were able to offer art and educational workshops to the children in our programs, purchase new pillows, linens and blankets for our clients use and update all the rooms in the Transition House.

We measure our success, however, not just based on what we offer to our clients, but the outcome of our work. Women who took the courageous step to leave their abusive partners and were served by Dixon Society rebuilt a life free of violence for themselves and their children. There are numerous barriers that women who leave violent relationships face. Poverty, housing, conflicting orders from family court and criminal court and lack of accountability for the offenders make breaking free from violence a very trying process. Despite these challenges, women leave their abusers every day, and we see it as our duty to not only provide them with shelter and support, but to also advocate on their behalf to improve services and to increase awareness of causes and impacts of violence against women. The incredible staff team at Dixon Transition Society is passionate, dedicated and committed to providing the best services we can offer. Our dedicated Board members and all of our other volunteers offer their precious time to support the delivery of the best services to these strong women. And our funders, donors and partners provide resources and funds that allow us to operate and offer the comprehensive services we provide. To all of you THANK YOU for your continued support.

Respectfully submitted by,
Pany Aghili, Executive Director

Treasurer's Report

Dixon Transition Society continues to benefit from the caring efforts of all of its dedicated staff members, funders, and community supporters. These combined stakeholder efforts helped Dixon Society deliver a strong 2014 fiscal year, providing refuge and services to women and children escaping domestic abuse.

I am pleased to report that Dixon Society and its staff focused substantial time promoting Dixon Transition Society's vision in fiscal 2014. Public relations initiatives are critical to Dixon Society's strategic priority in relation to educating society about domestic violence, and moreover, the increase in these initiatives have coincided with an increase in grant funding, donations, and fundraising support in fiscal 2014. Dixon Society's non-recurring grant funding more than tripled in fiscal 2014, providing the clients with improved facilities and art and education workshops for the children in Dixon Society's programs. Cash donations grew by over 20% in fiscal 2014 and gift-in-kind donations more than doubled as well. It is clear that Dixon Society has substantial support from its community, which is critical to its success.

Although constrained by the number of beds and housing available to potential clients, this has not hindered Dixon Transition Society from continually improving the quality of care that it provides. Going forward, the Society is in a position to continue advancing its quality of care, as well as, increase awareness of issues and impacts of violence against women in the community. These areas will continue to be top of mind for us in the fiscal 2015 year and further years to come.

Respectfully Submitted By,
Ian Wanke, Treasurer

Transition House Decoration

As the Transition House is close to 30 years old and utilized by 10 women and children on a daily basis, it was in desperate need of some TLC. As the staff of Dixon Society, it is very important to us that not only all the women and children who walk through our doors feel safe, but also to feel welcomed and at home. When women and children arrive at the House, they are greeted with open arms and given a tour of the House to ensure they know where everything they need is. Because of the generosity of TELUS, we are able to provide them with a bag containing toiletries, socks, face towels and other goodies for themselves and their children. We also look through our donations, received from and regularly sorted by the business and community volunteers, to see what we can offer to help them feel at ease during their stay at Dixon House and what we can help them with for their journey after they leave us.

Although we love this house, and it has seen the triumph of the many women and children we have had the privilege of serving, it was starting to look run down. Each bedroom had been painted a different colour and had nicks and marks on the walls, the drapes were faded and worn down, and the beds had mismatched linens. The main floor was in need of some redecorating and reorganizing to create a comfy, relaxing and quiet space for the moms, but also a fun place for the kids to play.

Thanks to the passion of Choices Interior Design owner, Bea O'Driscoll, and the generosity of : her students, The Home Depot Burnaby staff, the Microsoft Store in Metropolis at Metrotown team, and the \$1000 gift card donated by Homesense/Winners we now have a fantastic new space. We also used some of the \$10,000 from the Mary Kay Grant donated to us last year to make this project a reality!

Now all the rooms and bathrooms have been repainted, new artwork to brighten the space has been put up, and all beds and cribs have new sheets, pillows, and comforters. In the main living area, the decorators created a fabulous playroom with lots of room for toy storage and playtime! The moms now have a comforting space where they can relax after the kids have gone to bed and read a book or watch some TV. The meeting room is now a pleasant and quiet space where clients can use the computers or have a meeting with their workers.

Thank you so much to everyone who helped us complete this project. We are so grateful and so proud that we can offer the women and children escaping violence a beautiful and comfortable home.

Respectfully submitted by,
Katie Trace, Operations Coordinator and Rubi Samra, Women Support Worker

Before



After



Statistical Report



Above artwork by children in Dixon Transition Society programs

Transition House

Clients Served

Total Clients: 220
Women: 56
Children: 73
Outreach: 91
Calls: 1082

Turned Away due to Lack of Space

Total Turned Away: 783
Women: 447
Children: 336

Housing Outreach

Clients Served

Total Clients: 218
Total Housed: 75

Provided Support In:

Resume Writing: 17
Job Search: 30
Educational Options: 10

Wenda's Place

Clients Served

Total Clients: 78
Children: 51
Women: 27
Outreach: 11
Calls: 104

Turned Away due to Lack of Space

Total Turned Away: 235
Women: 99
Children: 136

Third Stage Housing

Clients Served

Women: 6
Children: 17

Turned Away due to Lack of Space

Total Turned Away: 39
Women: 11
Children: 28

Family Counselling

Total Number of Sessions: 703

Total Clients: 90
Individual Sessions: 599
Couples' Sessions: 39
Family Sessions: 16
Sessions with Children and Adolescents: 49

Stopping the Violence Counselling

Clients Served

Total Clients: 60
Total Number of Sessions: 477

Volunteers

Volunteers: 181
Volunteer Hours: 1855

Dixon Transition Society Staff

Mixin' for Dixon



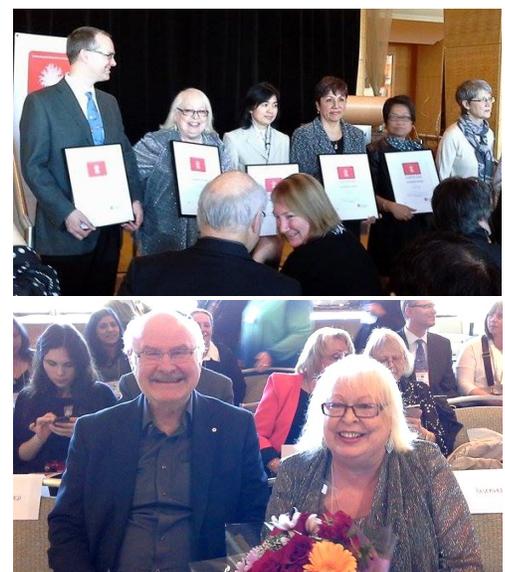
Dixon Transition Society Staff and Board at *Mixin' for Dixon*

Dixon Transition Society celebrated 40 years of service at the Burnaby Lake Pavilion on September 20th, 2013. Thanks to a grant from the City of Burnaby we were able to host the event. The night was filled with multiple dance performances, food, an auction and a raffle draw. *Mixin' for Dixon* provided us with an opportunity to say "Thank you" to Burnaby and its community spirit, to all of our donors and volunteers and to our amazing staff who work with dedication and passion.

Congratulations

In January 2014 our Transition House Coordinator, Bea Bonner, received recognition from the United Way of the Lower Mainland for her years of service. Bea was the recipient of the Bhayana Family Foundation Leadership Award and received a gift of \$1000 dollars. The award is given to employees at a United Way supported agency that have demonstrated exemplary leadership and dedication to their organization, peers and clients. This award was made possible by Raksah M. Bhayana and the Bhayana Family Foundation. Congratulations Bea!

Bea receiving her award at the ceremony
Bea and Mike Harcourt at the ceremony



2013-2014 Board of Directors

Chair	Alison Silgado	Secretary	Kurt Horne
Vice-Chair (Effective February 2014)	Gillian Sherwood	Treasurer	Ian Wanke
Vice-Chair	Zeenat Ali	Board Member	Ken Kramer
Board Member	Haydee Windey	Board Member	Jennifer Geneve
Board Member	Satnam Lalli	Board Member	Jennifer Diep
Board Member	Afroza Samji		

Meet Our 2014-2015 Board

Alison Silgado—Chair



Alison Silgado is the Principle of ACS Coaching & Consulting Services. A consulting firm that provides leadership, programs and services to a wide range of clients from start-ups to multinationals and non profits. The primary focus is to assist businesses plan and execute their mission. Alison grew up in a country where families with limited resources believed that, if there was food for one person, it went to the male child, if there was enough for education, it went to the male child. There was something inherently wrong with that situation.

"I firmly believe in equal rights and opportunities for men and women. While things have changed with a strong political and social will, there is much to be done and I need to do my part in making a difference."

Gillian Sherwood—Vice Chair

Gill has worked with G&F Financial Group for over 15 years and is currently the branch manager of G&F's North Burnaby branch. She is a resident of Burnaby and believes strongly in the importance of community involvement. In addition to being on the board of Dixon Transition Society, she is also a member and volunteer with the BBOT, a member of the Burnaby Neighbourhood House's North Burnaby Steering Committee and is a past member of the Rotary Club of Burnaby Metrotown.

"I believe that everyone deserves to have a life free of violence and if we at Dixon can help to end violence against women and children it will build a stronger society for us all."



Ian Wanke—Treasurer

Ian is the Treasurer of Dixon Transition Society and he has been a board member since 2011. Based in Vancouver, Ian works as a Vice President in Deloitte’s mid-market corporate finance practice. Ian is a Chartered Accountant and a Chartered Business Valuator and he holds a Bachelor of Commerce Degree from the Sauder School of Business.

“I am passionate about stopping violence against women and children because it’s an issue that is often kept behind closed doors that many people in our communities are not aware of. Victims of abuse need support to help them through difficult times, and our communities need to become more educated on the realities of domestic abuse.”



Kurt Horne—Secretary



Kurt is an SFU Business Administration Alumni holding a BBA in business and psychology. His experience includes many years in governance services helping to shape an industry leading Corporate Secretary Office in one of Canada’s top companies. Kurt has previously spent several years in customer service, human resources, and training as an experiential education facilitator. Kurt specializes in corporate filings, board relations and project leadership.

“I believe that violence against women and children has no place in our society, nor in our world. We need to not only work with the women on recognizing the signs of violence but with men on respecting women and with our institutions to help instill the values that will make our world a better place.”

Haydee Windey—Board Member

Haydee has worked as an ESL Teacher and Education Consultant for the past thirty years. In 2005, she founded ELITbyHaydee. She has a very personal connection with Dixon and professes a deep gratitude to the organization for making a pivotal impact on her life and that of her daughter. By sharing her personal story, Haydee would like to inspire, educate and engage other women, men, business leaders, government and the legal community to join forces in an effort to establish a pro-active approach towards eradicating issues related to gender based prejudice, inequality and violence.

“I know, from personal experience, that when women are given the appropriate support and encouragement, they will strive to accomplish healthy and meaningful lifestyle changes for themselves and for their children.”



Satnam Lalli—Board Member

Satnam got involved with Dixon Society shortly after attaining her CA designation. Satnam was looking to volunteer for an organization that supported an issue that she felt strongly about, where she could apply her professional skills and training.

"Dixon Society offers a wide range of services that make an impact on the lives of women and children. We've all encountered some form of adversity in life, Dixon Society empowers women from all walks of life to achieve a better quality of life. I am honoured to be a part of this organization that supports women."



Ken Kramer—Board Member



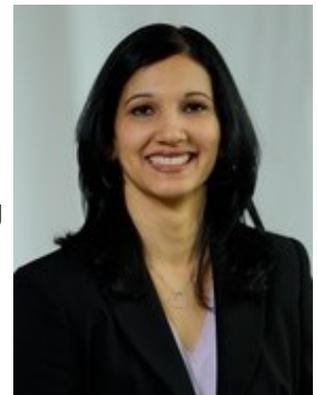
Ken is the Principal and Senior Associate Counsel with KMK Law Corporation, a boutique law firm located in downtown Vancouver, BC, which provides specialized legal services in the areas of Estates and Trusts law, Wealth Management, Elder Law, Estate Mediation and Litigation. He is also Chair of the Board of the Emergency Medical Assistants Licensing Board, British Columbia Ministry of Health, which is responsible for examining, registering, licensing and disciplining emergency medical assistants (EMA's) in British Columbia, including first responders. Ken has been a spokesperson and advocate for the disabled community in British Columbia and throughout Canada for the past 25 years. Ken's passion for assisting those more vulnerable in the community also extends to ensuring that women and children are protected from violence.

"My vision is a community that supports women and children and ensures that they are provided with every opportunity to achieve their goals and contribute to society"

Kuldip Taggar—Board Member

Kuldip has led and managed small and large teams (30+ employees) for over 15 years, developing expertise in performance management, recruitment, coaching, employee engagement, team building, customer service and conflict resolution. An HR professional with a solid management background that comes from managing business units, customer service teams and operations teams. This broad business experience allows Kuldip to see the big picture and truly relate to the challenges managers are faced with everyday.

"All women should be able to live a life free of violence, abuse and fear. I want that for my daughter, for my mother, for my sisters and for all the women of the world".



Thank You to Our Supporters

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Brentwood Presbyterian Church
Brentwood Town Centre
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Burnaby 30 Min Hit
Burnaby Bikram Yoga
Burnaby Christmas Bureau
Burnaby Fighters Charitable Society
Burnaby Wellness Centre
Buy-Low Foods Burnaby
Cactus Club—North Burnaby
Canadian Women's Foundation
Canucks Community Partnerships
Capilano Suspension Bridge
Carter Northshore
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Costco—Brighton
Cristos Greek Taverna
Cunningham Lindsey
David's Tea—Lougheed Mall
Deer Lake United Church
Deloitte
Delta Hotels Burnaby
Department of Justice Canada
Edible Arrangements— North Burnaby
Elit English Language Improvement—
Training
Enterprise Rent a Car Canada
Esposito Massage
Families of Abuse Society
Firehall Arts Centre
Forbidden Vancouver Walking Tours
Fun, Friendship and Community Service
G&F Financial Group
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Good Riddance
Gourmet Baker
Great Canadian Casinos
Greater Vancouver Food Bank Society
Greater Vancouver Zoo
GVC Credit Union
Hilton Vancouver Metrotown Hotel
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HR Macmillan Space Centre
Ivanhoe Cambridge II Inc.
Kast Hair Studio
Kids Up Front
Kit's Fashion Co. Ltd.
Koko's Activity Centre
Lavigne Organics Skincare
Leon Judah Blackmore Foundation
Leona Bellydance
Lower Mainland Christmas Bureau
Mary Kay Ash Charitable Foundation
M&M Meat Shop
Marketplace IGA—Burnaby Kingsway
Master Gardeners Association of BC
McDonald's BC Regional Office
Microsoft Store in Metropolis—
at Metrotown
Milk Factory Designs
Museum of Vancouver
Nester's Market—SFU
Northern Reflections Lougheed Mall
Old Spaghetti Factory
Opti Centre
Original Cupcakes
Oswego Hotel
Pacific National Exhibition—
Community Relations
Panago— Kingsway
Parish of St. Stephen The Martyr—
Thrift Shop
Pedal Foundation
Pillars Salon
Playland
Prince of Whales
Raymond James
Raincoast Books
RBC Hastings and Rosser Branch
Rotary Coats for Kids—Metrotown Club
Royal Bank of Canada
Reitmans—Coquitlam Centre
Safeway—Kingsway
Science World BC
Scotiabank Theatre
Staff of City of Burnab:
—Clerks and Legal Department
—Planning and Building Department
Staff of SFU Distance Education Dept.
Staff of Vancity Centre
Shimmy Mob
Shoppers Drug Mart Life Foundation
Smart Set Lougheed Mall
South Burnaby United Church
Spice Journey
Superior Martial Arts
Swiss Bakery
Take Sushi
Target Western Canada
Telus—Community Ambassadors
Tessler and Stein
The Body Shop—Lougheed Mall
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Individual Donors...**

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BC Housing



Ministry of Children and Family Development
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United Way
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