

## Who we are

We are a non-profit registered charity, operating in Terrace since 1980.

- We connect people, especially women and families, with needed resources.
- We offer workshops in parenting, health and wellness, early childhood development, and much more.

## Contact Us

4553 Park Avenue  
Terrace, BC V8G 1V3

Phone: 250-638-0228 (Women's Centre)

Phone: 250-638-1113 (CCRR)

Phone: 250-638-1863 (Success By 6, The Family Place)

Email: [programcoordinator@twrcs.ca](mailto:programcoordinator@twrcs.ca)

Web: [www.twrcs.ca](http://www.twrcs.ca)

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# Terrace Women's Resource Centre Society



**STAFF REPORT 2016-17**



Staff Report 2016-17

# Overview of Programs

## Skeena Child Care Resource & Referral



In the past year, Skeena CCRR has been involved with several partnerships within our service area (the Nass Valley, Kitimat, Terrace and surrounding areas). We participated in community sponsored early child development family fairs in Terrace, Gingolx and Gitwinksihlkw. We also offered workshops for child care providers, such as a book club, felt story make 'n take evenings and hosted both Science World and a facilitator from Vancouver who presented information about working with infants & toddlers. We offered three sessions of a Responsible Adult Course in Terrace. We offered parent information and activities for children at community events such as Family Literacy Day and Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder Awareness Day. We organized our annual Picnic in the Park in May as a celebration of Child Care Appreciation month and Christmas activities in the Skeena mall.

From Oct 1, 2016 to Sept 30, 2017, we recorded 402 in coming phone calls and 517 drop-ins as well as 2,392 emails (albeit not all calls and drop-ins are recorded). Over the past few years, we have seen a drop in the number of persons visiting The Family Place, and an increase in giving assistance over the phone or via email.

## Administration Highlights



Another interesting year, but then, when is it not? We navigated through service contracts, personnel changes, and building renovations. Check out our newly updated basement: a meeting room and a separate office are seeing plenty of usage for our programs, outside users groups, and community purposes. We are now able to invigilate exams for the Justice Institute of BC!

### Staff

Rosemary Craig, Jenn Dolen (from August 2016), Gayle Holtom, Elena Kusaka (from May 2016 to June 2017), Tara Salavich, Coco Schau (to June 2016), Darlene Westerman (to August 2016), Adrienne Zacher Davidson (from July 2017)

### Summer Students

Veronica Waechter and Cheyenne Edgar (2016)

Jessica Gaus (2017)



## Women/Family Programs

This was another busy and fruitful year at the Terrace Women's Resource Centre Society. Here are some highlights:

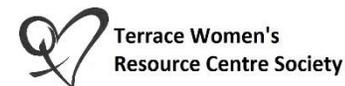
Summer student Jessica Gaus completed a youth survival guide, an empowHERment quilt art project, currently on view at the Art Gallery/Library, and a Food Sustainability day camp for kids.

- Weekly groups and family activities include A Writer in Residence (Knowmadic), youth workshops on healthy relationships, Nass Valley Medicine workshops, breastfeeding cafés, Single Mom's Group, life coaching, sexual and mental health, literacy roundtables, dialogues around Murdered and Missing Women, and much more.
- Awareness events included: Aboriginal Day, --June 21<sup>st</sup>, Riverboat Days first two weeks of Aug, FASD Awareness Day,-- Sep 9<sup>th</sup>, Take Back the Night, --Fall, Literacy project at the library for National Literacy Day/Month (Sept)—Why we love reading and FREE books; Women's History Month—October, Day of Remembrance --Dec 6<sup>th</sup>, Family Literacy Day --Feb, Highway of Tears Walk—Feb, International Women's Day—March 8<sup>th</sup>, and Resiliency March for Victims of Crime—May.
- We continue to offer our space free of charge to outside user groups, such as Beginners' Knitting, a meditation group, Early Childhood Educators of BC, Nar-Anon, and Skeena Pride Alliance.
- Deb McCooey from Ksan is piloting Seeking Safety workshops on our premises, to help women experience peaceful lives and relationships. Deb also generously offers weekly individual counseling for women in our newly renovated downstairs.

- Welcome to three new CVITP volunteers for income tax filing; previous volunteers Coco, Anne, and Darlene completed 112 tax returns for 2016/17.
- This September, the *Imagination Library* was launched as a collaboration between our literacy committee and our Success By 6 programs.
- An updated TWRCs website is almost complete and the staff have been building social media/contacts—facebook, instagram, linkedin.
- Our Super Volunteer, Kim Lambert, created the unique art you see around the living room and continues as editor of the *Tamarack* Zine, our quarterly Feminist publication.

In 2016-17, staff assisted women with challenges such as, but not limited to housing, job searches, relationships, separations, child subsidy, food, mental health, finances. We continue to provide public access to computer, phone, fax and copier.

For the future, the Women's Centre and Literacy are focusing on Seeking Safety (trauma informed PTSD/Addiction/Domestic Abuse/Mental Health counseling) workshops, Oral history workshop, Imagination library/Family Day/Literacy Day, and Body Positivity.



## 2016-17 Board of Directors

Joan Conway, Judy Bergman (to July 2016), Amanita Coosemans, Elena Kusaka (to May 2016), Rosalee Morgan, Anne Peltier

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*Northern women working in  
community advancing the  
rights of women and families  
from a feminist perspective*

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## Valued Volunteers

Our volunteers are artists, editors, writers, income tax preparers, carpenters, labourers, workshop facilitators, mentors, leaders, and so much more.

Thank you to Kim, Anne, Coco, Darlene, Katy, Avya, Ian, Louisa, Kara, Peter, and many others throughout the year.

Thank you to TSCI who donate computer maintenance services, to José Coosemans for the wonderful piano, and Rod Cox for the very useful and welcome meeting room furniture.

### Success By 6 Regional Coordinator (Northwest)



Success by Six (Northwest) is an initiative dedicated to healthy development in children ages 0-6. Our Regional Coordinator, Jenn Dolen, works with Early Years tables across the Northwest from Houston to Atlin, Kitamaat to Nass Valley, and parts in between.



### Community Literacy



Terrace Community Literacy held a February Family Literacy Day filled with activities, coordinated meetings with literacy partners throughout the year, and presented literacy activities at multiple community events.