

Annual Report 2021/2022



AVI respectfully acknowledges the territory of the Kwak-waka'wakw, Nuuchahnulth, and Coast Salish Peoples on whose land we live and work.



**AVI Health and
Community Services**
where harm reduction works



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A Message from Board Executive

As we enter the sixth year of the drug poisoning crisis and the second year of the COVID-19 pandemic, our work to promote health, dignity, and well-being for all people affected by HIV, HCV, and substance use has never been more relevant.

The toxic drug poisoning crisis continues with unimaginable loss. More than six people across the province lose their lives every day. At every level of AVI, every day, staff are working to provide people with as many tools as possible to prevent death and improve health and well-being. From providing prescribed safe supply and listening to the voices of those with lived experiences to connecting people to services they want and challenging the laws that harm the people we work with to prevent needless deaths.

Our work to prevent HIV and hepatitis C and support those living with these conditions remains a priority. We have seen firsthand the impact of the restrictions of COVID-19 on people's ability to access services and are committed to filling the gaps across the Island. Some key highlights include the following:

- North Island staff held socially distanced testing events and received training in administering rapid tests for hepatitis C
- At our Nanaimo office, we continued full access to STI testing and expanded access to PrEP
- In Victoria, we provided outreach to people living with HIV and increased the inclusivity of our education services by launching Prism Wellness

These are just a few highlights of our teams' work across the Island. Please take a moment to look through our annual report for further details of our work.

We continue to engage in an ongoing process of decolonization to hold ourselves accountable for addressing the racism and health inequity experienced by Indigenous people. We continue to acknowledge the historical and current harms caused to Indigenous people by colonization and commit as an agency to address these. We are grateful for the leadership of Rocky in walking alongside our agency in this journey. We are also thankful to the indigenous organizations across Vancouver Island who welcome us to their land and are generous in working in partnership with us.

Sustainable funding for our services is an ongoing challenge. This last year saw the closure of our substance use Health Clinic in the Westshore, and in the North Island, we could not continue to fund our harm reduction, outreach teams. We thank the teams who worked tirelessly to provide much-needed services. We will continue to work to bring attention to the needs of communities across Vancouver Island to ensure equitable access to care.

We could not do any of this work without the incredible, dedicated team of staff, and we thank them for their compassion and fortitude in the face of ongoing loss. We also want to thank the people who come to us for support. We are deeply grateful for your trust and faith in us and will continue to amplify your voices whenever possible.

We have also benefited this last year from a Board with a fantastic range of life experience and skills, and we want to thank them for their work over the last year of listening and learning from each other. In addition, board members have worked hard on fund development; a big thank you to Dean Thullner and Vanessa Purdy for all your work producing SHINE2022 Nanaimo, of which AVI was the primary beneficiary. We also benefited from new governance and finance committees.

We want to honour and thank two long-time Board members who have finished their time with us this year. Alexander Stirling has volunteered with AVI for over ten years, including six years on the Board. Alex brought his keen legal mind to our Board's governance work and was the Treasurer for several years. We also want to thank Mitch Hawes, who spent five years on the Board, including the last three as Secretary. Mitch brought his experience in communications and has led recruitment efforts to bring on a diverse and talented group of Board members.

Brent Weberg
Board Chair

Katrina Jensen
Executive Director

Our Board and Values



BOARD MEMBERS 2021-22

Brent Weberg
CHAIR
Mitch Hawes
SECRETARY
Tyler Thompson
TREASURER

Ngozi Joe-Ikechebelu
MEMBER-AT-LARGE
Douglas Laird
MEMBER-AT-LARGE
Cherolyn Knapp
MEMBER-AT-LARGE
George Tran Minh
MEMBER-AT-LARGE

Anthony Amato
MEMBER-AT-LARGE
Shannon Vogels
MEMBER-AT-LARGE
Dean Thullner
MEMBER-AT-LARGE
Vanessa Purdy
MEMBER-AT-LARGE



Brent Weberg, Board Chair at AVI'S Courtenay office

Mission

AVI's mission is to promote health, dignity, and well-being for all people affected by HIV, HCV, and substance use by delivering sex-positive and harm reduction based education, prevention, and support services.

Vision

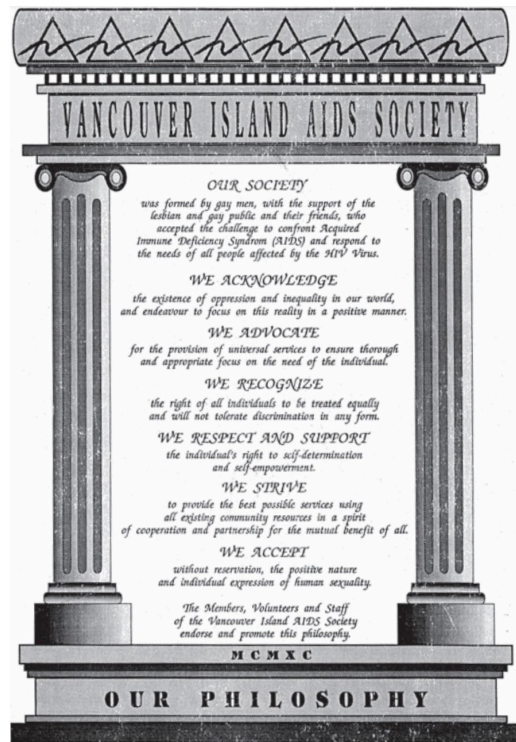
AVI envisions a community where all people affected by HIV, HCV, or substance use have equitable access to the support and services necessary to experience optimal health and well-being.



Katrina Jensen, Executive Director



Our History



OUR SOCIETY was formed by gay men, with the support of lesbian and gay public and their friends, who accepted the challenge to confront Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) and respond to the needs of all people affected by the HIV virus

WE ACKNOWLEDGE the existence of oppression and inequality in our world, and endeavour to focus on this reality in a positive manner

WE ADVOCATE for the provision of universal services to ensure thorough and appropriate focus on the need of the individual

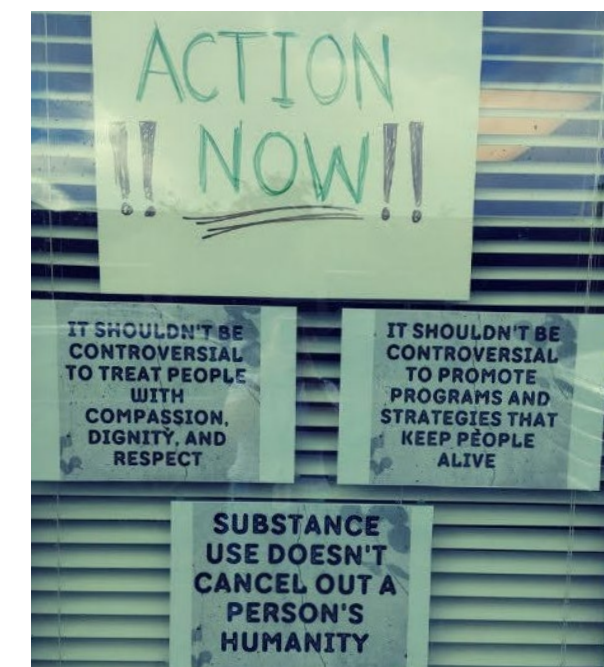
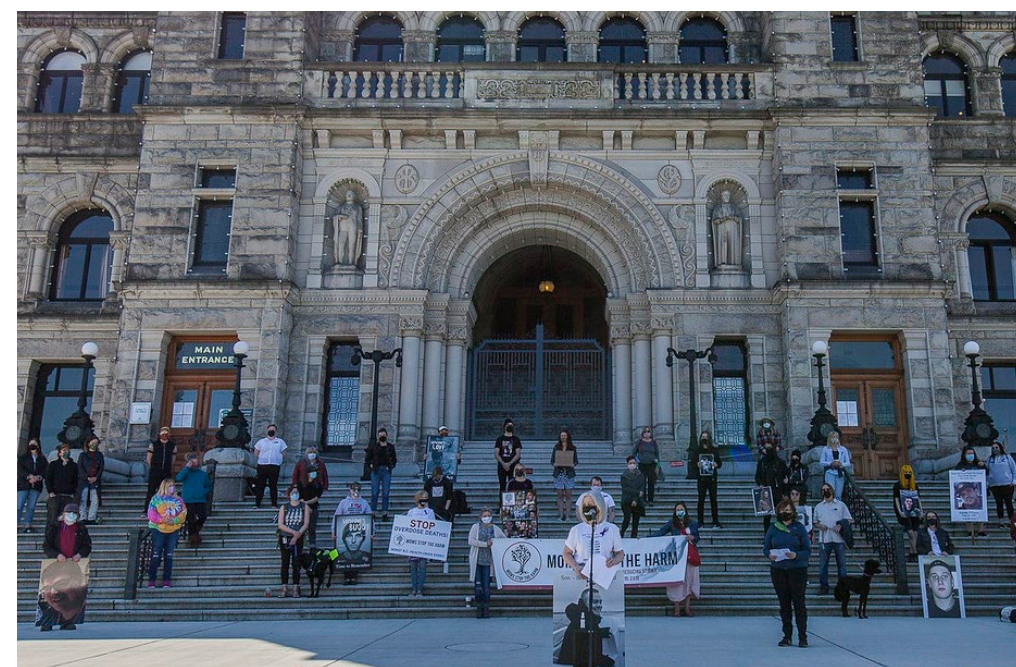
WE RECOGNIZE the right of all individuals to be treated equally and will not tolerate discrimination in any form

WE RESPECT AND SUPPORT the individual's right to self-determination and self-empowerment

WE STRIVE to provide the best possible services using all existing community resources in a spirit of cooperation and partnership for the mutual benefit of all

WE ACCEPT without reservation, the positive nature and individual expression of human sexuality

The Members, Volunteers and Staff of the Vancouver Island AIDS Society endorse, and promote this philosophy.



440,504

new needles distributed
across Vancouver Island

7,853

people trained in
Take Home Naloxone

152,644

safer inhalation kits distributed
across Vancouver Island

153

service provider trainings

430

group education sessions

**THIS YEAR
IN NUMBERS...**

25,525

people accessing nutritional programming

1,003

testing referrals

390

people provided with
Opioid Agonist Therapy

331

clients registered in our
Positive Wellness Program

79

testing events

50,400

condoms distributed

3,712

one-on-one harm
reduction education
sessions

Financial Statements



INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

To the members of the AVI Health & Community Services Society,

We have audited the financial statements of AVI Health & Community Services Society ("the Society"), which comprise the statement of financial position as at March 31, 2022, and the statements of operations, changes in net assets and cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of AVI Health & Community Services Society as at March 31, 2022, and its results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

Grant Thornton LLP
Chartered Professional Accountants

Statement of Financial Position

March 31, 2022

<u>Assets</u>		<u>Liabilities</u>	
Cash	1,464,053	Payables + Accruals	452,119
Receivables	242,875	Line of Credit	24,455
Due (joint venture partner)	55,614	Deferred Revenue	907,035
Prepays	22,208	Deferred Capital Contribution	1,044,945
Capital Assets	1,146,190		
Total Assets	\$2,930,940	Total Liabilities	\$2,428,553
		<u>Net Assets</u>	
		Invested in Capital Assets	96,971
		Restricted	7,503
		Internally Restricted Operating Fund	388,303
		General Operating Fund	9,610
		Total Net Assets	\$502,387
		Total Liabilities + Net Assets	\$2,930,940

Statement of Operations

March 31, 2022

<u>Revenue + Support</u>		<u>Expenses</u>	
Island Health	3,124,749	Salaries + Benefits	4,913,743
Health Canada	1,572,215	Rent + Office Expenses	604,745
Public Health Agency Canada	539,550	Program Materials	307,623
Community Action Initiative	104,516	Meetings, Honoraria, + Travel	120,612
United Way	108,334	Contract Services + Evaluation	937,564
Victoria Foundation	30,000	Licences, Fees + Dues	74,168
M.A.C. AIDS Fund	12,500	Promotion + Advertising	9,489
Donations	413,095	Amortization	13,777
Gaming Commission	129,500	Total Expenses	\$6,981,721
Health Clinic	769,162	Excess of Expenses over Revenue	\$296,860
Minor + Pilot Project Grants	325,190		
Provincial Government	127,531		
Interest + Other Income	22,239		
Total Revenue + Support	\$7,278,581		

THANK YOU

A heartfelt thank you to our many community partners who have contributed to our agency throughout the past year.

South Island

Aboriginal Coalition to End Homelessness, Alt Pride, BC Centre for Disease Control, BC Overdose Emergency Response Centre, Belmont High School, Canadian Drug Policy Coalition, Canadian Institute for Substance Use Research, CATIE, Community Apothecary, Cool Aid, Cridge Pharmacies, Crust Bakery, Drug User Liberation Front (DULF), First Nations Health Authority, Greater Victoria Coalition to End Homelessness, Greater Victoria Public Library, Harm Reduction Nurses Association, HerWay Home, HIM, Homelessness Services Association of BC (HSABC), IHRT, Island Health ACT Team, Island Health Detox and Stabilization, Island Health HR Coordinator, Island Health Intensive Case Management Team (ICMT), Island Health Public Health, Island Health Street Nurses, Island Health Rapid Access Clinic, Moms Stop the Harm, Mustard Seed National Safer Supply Community of Practice, Our Place, Pacific AIDS Network, Pacifica Housing, Peers, Saanich Peninsula Youth Health Clinic, SICORN, SOLID Outreach Society, Sooke Region Community Health Network, Sooke Shelter Society, Soupa Café, The Foundry Victoria, Umbrella Society, UVic Anti-Violence Project, UVic School of Social Work, Vancouver Island Drug Checking

Project, Vancouver Island PWA, Vancouver Island Regional Corrections Centre, Victoria High School, Victoria Native Friendship Centre, Victoria Pride, Victoria Youth Clinic



Central Island

Beaufort Clinic, CMHA Wesley St. Community, Discovery Community College, Island Health MHSU Community Teams, Island Health Positive Health / Communicable Disease, Nanaimo Aboriginal Centre, Nanaimo CAT, Nanaimo Correctional Centre, Nanaimo Division of Family Practice, Nanaimo Pride, Nanaimo Women's Centre, Nanaimo Youth Wellness Centre, New Hope Shelter, Nexus Primary Care Clinic, NRGH Addictions Team, Snuneymuxw First Nation, Sprott Shaw Community College, The Pain Clinic, Tillicum Lelum Health Centre, Vancouver Island University



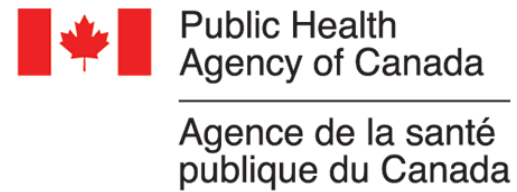
North Island

Amethyst House, BC Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction – Community Integration Specialist, Bladerunners, Campbell River and North Island Transition Society, Campbell River Bylaw Enforcement, Campbell River CAT Leadership, Campbell River City Yard, Campbell River Coalition to End Homelessness, City of Campbell River Health and Safety Committee, City of Courtenay, Comox Valley Art Gallery, Comox Valley CAT, Comox Valley Coalition to End Homelessness, Comox Valley Drug Strategy Committee, Comox Valley Nursing Centre, Comox Valley Pride, Comox Valley Recovery Centre, Comox Valley Transition Society, Connect Warming Centre, Cortes Island Medical Centre, Courtenay Farmer's Market, Dawn-to-Dawn Action on Homelessness Society, Denman Island Community School, Discovery College (Nursing and Community Service Worker programs), First Nations Health Authority, Glacier View, Health Connections Clinic, Highland, Holmalco First Nation, Indigenous Women's Sharing Society, Intensive Case Management Team, Island Health Mental Health, Island Health MHSU, Island Health Public Health, K'omoks First Nation, KDC (Campbell River, Cape Mudge and Quinsam Reserves), KDC Health, Klahoose Reserve, Laichwiltach Family Life Society, LOUD

Project, Lili House, LUSH Valley, MCFD MOUHSS – Mobile Outreach, Health and Safety Services, Nala'atsi Alternate School, North Island College (Nursing program), North Island College, North Island John Howard Society, North Island Medical Clinic, North Island Pharmacy, North Island Pride, North Island Recovery Centre, Overdose Prevention Site CR (VIMHS), Overdose Prevention Site CV (IH), PAN PHN – Pacific Hepatitis Network, Phoenix Middle School, Positive Wellness North Island, Public Health and CD Programs, Q'waxsem Place, Quadra Island Fire Department, Quadra Island Medical Centre, RCMP Community Liaison, RCMP Victim Services, Robron Center – Campbell River School District, Robron Centre, Rose Harbour Family Services, Rosebowl Transitional Housing, Rosebridge Housing, Safety Net Security, Salvation Army CV, Salvation Army CR, Sasaman's Society, School District #71, School District #72, Second Chance Recovery Centre, Sobering Centre, St. John the Devine Anglican Church, St. George's United Church, Substance Use Integration Team, The Junction, The Station, The Care-a-Van, Tidemark Theatre, Vancouver Island Mental Health Society, Vancouver Island Music Festival, Vancouver Island Regional Library, Vanier Secondary School, Village of Cumberland, Wachaiy Friendship Centre, Women's Centre, Youth Media Project



Thank You to Our Funders



We acknowledge the financial support of the Province of British Columbia



Working with communities in BC's Interior, Lower Mainland, Central & Northern Vancouver Island



VICTORIA FOUNDATION



Estate of Marie Luisa MacRae



NANAIMO Community Action Team

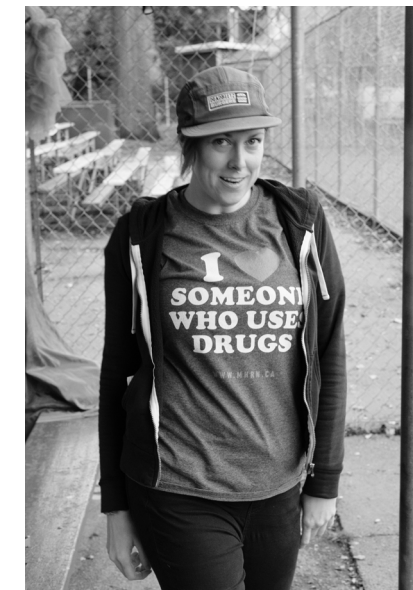
VICTORIA Community Action Team

COMOX VALLEY Community Action Team

The AVI Nanaimo Counselling and Peer Support Program is supported by the Government of Canada's Emergency Community Support Fund and Nanaimo Foundation.



The Victoria Safer Alternative For Emergency Response (SAFER) Initiative is supported by Health Canada's Substance Use and Addictions Program.



Get in Touch

CAMPBELL RIVER

Our Campbell River office is located on the lands of the We Wai Kai and Wei Wai Kum people.

1371 c. Cedar Street, Campbell River, BC
V9W 2W6

Phone: 250-830-0787 | **Fax:** 250-830-0784
Toll Free Infoline: 1-877-650-8787

COMOX VALLEY

Our Comox Valley office is located on the lands of the K'ómoks First Nations.

355 6th St., Courtenay, BC
V9N 1M2

Phone: 250-338-7400 | **Fax:** 250-334-8224
Toll Free Infoline: 1-877-311-7400

NANAIMO

Our Nanaimo office is located on Snuneymuxw territory.

102-55 Victoria Road, Nanaimo, BC
V9R-5N9

Phone: 250-754-9111 | **Fax:** 250-753-4595
Toll Free Infoline: 1-888-530-2437

VICTORIA

AVI's 'Victoria' office is located on the territories of the Lekwungen speaking peoples of the Songhees and Esquimalt nations.

3rd Floor - Access Health Centre
713 Johnson St., Victoria, BC
V8W 1M8

Phone: 250-384-2366 | **Fax:** 250-380-9411
Toll Free Infoline: 1-800-665-2437



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