

The McCreary Centre Society

Annual Report 2003-2004

October 2004



Report on Activities Conducted
October 2003 to September 2004.

Our mission is...

To foster wider understanding of the importance of youth health, increase knowledge about youth health needs and issues, promote a continuing commitment to youth health issues, and initiate and implement innovative projects which directly address unmet health needs of young people.

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Chairperson's Report

2003-2004

This year it is easy to list the things we can celebrate.

- The move into our new home
- The successful release of the AHS III reports
- The arrival of Elizabeth Saewyc as Research Director

These things have strengthened MCS and will expand our future capacity on behalf of the youth agenda in BC. We should also acknowledge the oft overlooked assets that we can celebrate. We have had excellent leadership from our Managing Director, Aileen Murphy. We have a seasoned and supportive Board that helps to sustain our mission and supports our values. The arrival of new staff, completion of a number of important projects (outlined in Aileen's report), and the creation of the McCreary Community have helped make this an important year in the life of our Society.

The Caring Canadian award was presented to Carrol Tonkin by our Governor General a few weeks ago. Carrol's contributions to McCreary over the years have been substantial. To name but a few they include: Charter Board member, Camp Elsewhere Director, and most recently, Relocation Coordinator. Her volunteerism, so deservedly recognized, is but one example of the type of volunteer efforts that small non-profits such as McCreary need to be able to call upon.

Each new step forward brings us new challenges and opportunities. The arrival of Dr Saewyc in BC gives us all an opportunity to move the adolescent health research agenda ahead. This will include challenges for MCS such as: greater emphasis on peer reviewed publications and grant applications; greater opportunities for partnerships between MCS and the academic world; and more attention to the requirements such as university ethics guidelines. The successful release and favorable response to our AHS III provincial reports needs to be followed by seeking funding opportunities to analyze trends and explore more sophisticated analysis. The acquisition of the 3552 property adds a new level of responsibility for maintaining it and, at the same time, addressing the challenge of finding the funds for core operating costs.

The creation of the McCreary Community last January is an important step. However, it will likely take a few years for us to realize its potential. A healthy mix of shared principles, shared activities and costs, and a generous spirit of goodwill /

respect will be needed if we are to successfully grasp the opportunities that it presents. Already our YAC and the SFU Student Research Group are re-visiting their roles within the Community. Each member of these two groups is currently reassessing their volunteer commitment. I urge everyone, youth and not so youth, to work together to ensure that the spirit and practice of youth participation and engagement remains a hallmark of our Society.

The Society is fortunate that it has been served by such a committed staff and by such great Board members. Their names and those of our various Advisory committee members are listed in our report. It is not possible for me to say enough “thank you’s” in this regard. By remembering and honoring their contributions on a daily basis we are providing a more lasting tribute. Think what we have accomplished so far by always doing our best to ensure that what we do each day helps make MCS stronger and our provinces youth healthier.

Renewal is an important component of life at MCS. While we must say fond farewells to some we are also extending warm welcomes to others. I have been privileged to serve the Society since its inception but time is fast approaching for me to hand the torch over to others. This process begins in 2004 – 2005 when I hand the role of Chair over to someone else and in 2005-2006 when I step off of the Board completely. Naming individuals in my part of this Annual Report is not practical as the list is long but each of you should know how much I have appreciated your patience, persistence, and support.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Tonkin', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Roger S Tonkin, MDCM, FRCPC, OBC
Chair, McCreary Centre Society

Treasurer's Report

Fiscal Year: June 1, 2003 to May 31st, 2004

As treasurer I wish to report to the Annual General Meeting of the Society the Review of Financial Statements as of May 31st, 2003 as prepared by the Chartered Accountant firm, Ellis Foster. It is noted that the Chartered Accountant firm of Ellis Foster is retained by the Society to review the Society's Financial Statements, but is retained to prepared an audit. Based on their review, the accountants are of the opinion that the financial statement are in accordance with accepted accounting principles.

The Statement Of Revenue and Expenses for the fiscal year shows that there is an excess of expenses over revenue \$57,183.00. This is due to a decline in the Society's general receipts of \$8,693.00 from the previous fiscal year and a decline in the project receipts of \$117,713.00. Off setting the decline in revenue the expenses for this fiscal year were less, showing a decline of \$46,521.00. When reviewing this statement, it must be noted that receipts for projects and expenses incurred for projects are not always received during the same fiscal year.

A better indication of the Society's financial health is the Balance Sheet which shows the Net Assets of the Society as \$1,136,152.00. Included in this total is the grant of \$1,000.000 the Society received under the Human Resources Facility Act for the purpose of assisting in the purchase and development of a facility. The Society has an accepted offer to purchase real estate premises located in Vancouver and has paid deposits of \$45,000.00 towards the purchase which is to close on December 31, 2003.

In closing I wish to thank Nancy Sorensen for her hard work and diligence in managing the financial affairs of the McCreary Society.

Respectfully submitted,

Tim Agg
Treasurer

Nominating Committee Report

This year's Executive Committee served as our Nominating Committee and calls for nominees circulated on their behalf.

The following Board Members have decided not to stand for re-election: Faye Bebb, Kim Van der Woerd, and Evangeline Zhou

The following Board Members have agreed to servings another term:

Tim Agg
David Cox
Opreet Kang
Poonum Kang
Pat Mauch
Cathy Still
Roger Tonkin

The following nominations for new Board Members are submitted:

Golda Adjei-Achampong
Anne Carten
Sherry van Blyderveen

It is recommended that Aileen Murphy and Elizabeth Saewyc serve as ex officio members of the Board

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the Nominating Committee

Youth Advisory Committee Report

Breaking Barriers & Building Bridges (B4)

The annual Breaking Barriers and Building Bridges (B4), a weekend long youth lead conference, took place again this year during spring. The conference was held at Camp Howdy in Port Moody. The B4 conference brought youth from across British Columbia together to learn, network and develop new skills to take back to their communities.

YAC Development

The YAC development process is progressing with the assembly of the YAC Alumni, a group of members that feel they have grown out of the age bracket yet would like to continue to be involved with the YAC as YAC and/or Adult support figures. The YAC has also expanded their feedback process by again this year interviewing B4 participants six months after the B4 for a post-B4 review. As always the YAC continually works towards advancing group structure and organization.

Respectfully submitted,

Poonum Kang
Youth Advisory Council Member

Managing Director's Report

Adolescent Health Survey III has been a central focus for staff at McCreary this year. The staff team's efforts, tremendous work of public health nursing in administering the survey in schools, and the support of the Interministry and Advisory Committees contributed to the success of the AHS III data collection in the spring 2003.

Over the past year, McCreary continued to support the participation of young people within the organization and in conferences and projects. McCreary hosted two provincial youth conferences - *B4* and *Youth Participation- Today and Tomorrow*. The Society provided youth input and perspective to the Canadian Health Network. The *From the Inside Out* project involved McCreary in working at the community level to promote the healthy development of early adolescents.

Partnerships with academic researchers at Simon Fraser University, University of Minnesota and Children's and Women's Health Centre of BC continued in 2002-2003. The Society also collaborated with both the newly created *McCreary Youth Foundation* and *BC Consortium for Youth Health*.

In the spring 2003, McCreary received funds from the provincial government under the Human Resources Facility Act to purchase permanent office space for the Society. We are looking forward to moving later this year to our new home on East Hastings Street.

Projects

Adolescent Health Survey III

The third provincial Adolescent Health Survey was administered to BC students in February through June 2003. Forty-six of the province's 59 school districts agreed to participate and over 150 public health staff and nursing students were trained to administer the survey in classrooms. In total, over 30,000 BC students in grades 7 through 12 completed a questionnaire. The focus of the coming year will be to analyse the data and release the first set of provincial and regional results.

From the Inside Out: Promoting Resilience in Early Adolescence

From the Inside Out is a two year initiative focused on promoting resilience in early adolescence. Over the past year, McCreary's data sets were analysed and a report entitled, *Healthy Youth Development: The Opportunity of Early Adolescence*, was produced. This report highlights the health and behaviours of BC adolescents aged 12 to 14 years.

The second component of the project is an intervention strategy designed to enhance communities' capacity to promote the healthy development of their early adolescents. McCreary has been working with youth leaders and supportive adults in three BC communities – Moricetown, Anahim Lake and North Surrey - on a workshop series for young adolescents. McCreary is evaluating this model and will prepare a report that will share the learnings with others.

Canadian Health Network

McCreary, together with the Canadian Association for Adolescent Health in Montreal, Hospital for Sick Kids in Toronto, Kids Help Phone in Toronto and Teen Net at the University of Toronto, is the Youth Affiliate for the Canadian Health Network. McCreary's role is to provide youth input and perspective. This has included developing and reviewing FAQ's, reviewing the resource collection, and evaluating the "youth-friendliness" of the website. McCreary is also responsible for promoting the CHN to youth groups in BC.

Youth Conferences

Breaking Barriers and Building Bridges (B4)

In March 2003, McCreary's Youth Advisory Council, with the support of youth staff, hosted the seventh annual provincial B4 conference. Eighty participants attended this energetic weekend event that focused on the theme of "Taking Action." Over the summer, two YAC members were hired to prepare a "B4 Scrapbook" and conduct follow-up interviews with B4 participants. The B4 continues to be a highly inspirational for-youth-by-youth conference.

Youth Participation – Today and Tomorrow

The Youth Participation conference brought together fifty BC youth leaders and adults with experience in youth participation to share successful models and discuss emerging issues related to youth involvement. The Youth Participation conference was held August 21-23 at the University of Victoria in conjunction with the *Promise Into Practice: International Child and Youth Care Conference*. Planning is now underway for a similar event next year.

Partnerships

University Partnerships

Over the past year, the Simon Fraser University graduate student research group met on a monthly basis, and several students completed research projects involving secondary analysis of the AHS data. Topic areas researched included Aboriginal

students' attitudes and performance at school, Chinese youth and emotional distress, bullying and victimization among youth in custody centres, and peer victimization among youth in school.

Elizabeth Saewyc and Carol Skay from the University of Minnesota continued to utilize the AHS to explore risk and protective factors among bisexual youth.

McCreary partnered with researchers from Children's and Women's Health Centre of BC on the *Transition to Adulthood of Adolescents Born at Extremely Low Birth Weight* project. Among the tools used to assess teens who were less than 800 grams at birth, was the Adolescent Health Survey. McCreary trained hospital staff to administer the survey and was responsible for analysing the results. Research findings will be disseminated in the academic literature.

BC Consortium for Youth Health and McCreary Youth Foundation

The *BC Consortium for Youth Health* is a virtual network of researchers, and community and government agencies with an interest in youth health. Over the past year McCreary supported the consortium by developing the consortium website, and supporting consortium events which included a graduate student research seminar held at SFU Harbour Centre on May 13, and *Getting Youth On the Agenda* conference held at the University of Victoria on August 20th.

The creation of the McCreary Youth Foundation in 2003 has created new opportunities for partnership. In the spring, the Society was contracted by the Foundation to conduct a literature review and inventory of stakeholders related to the commercial sexual exploitation of youth in BC.

Respectfully submitted,

Aileen Murphy
Managing Director

People Involved

MCS Board of Directors

Chairperson	Roger Tonkin
Treasurer	Tim Agg
Directors	Feye Bebb
	David Cox
	Opreet Kang
	Poonum Kang
	Pat Mauch
	Cathy Still
	Kim Van der Woerd
	Evangeline Zhou

MCS Youth Advisory Council

Golda Adjei-Achampong	Nathan Penner
Alex Chin	Monica Pietramala
Courteney Chin	Julie Richards
Herminia Diaz	Elizabeth Thai
Jesse Dostal	Martin Tutt
Kyle Hazlewood	August Ustare
Silvia Hua	Laura Ward
Poonum Kang	Ethan Wilson
Jaiminder Kang	Evangeline Zhou
Amanda Murray	

MCS Staff

Managing Director	Aileen Murphy
Bookkeeper/HR Administrator	Nancy Sorensen
	Michele Hosseini
Communications Coordinator	Alison Liebel
Administrative Assistant	Jesse Dostal
Youth Participation Coordinators	Bernadette Amiscaray
	Ginger Gosnell
Research Assistants	Minda Chittenden
	Philippa Jackson
Research Associates	Colleen Poon (consultant)

Summer Staff

Aviva Laye (consultant)
Pamela Verma
Jaiminder Kang
Alex Chin

Consultants

Lisa May
Dodie Katzenstein
John Collins

Legal Counsel

Anthony B.P. DuMoulin - DuMoulin and Boskovich

Accounting Consultants

Ellis Foster Chartered Accountants

SFU Psychology Research Group

Dr. David Cox	Melanie O'Neill
Dr. Roger Blackman	Avneet Sidhu
Sherry van Blyderveen	Jody Viljoen
Karla Jackson	Kim van der Woerd
Geoff Michell	
Aviva Laye (UBC)	

Project Advisory Committees

From the Inside Out: Promoting Resilience in Early Adolescence - Project Partners

Sharon Jagich
Surrey Youth Clinic

Lucy Glaim
Wet'suwet'en Tribal Council, Moricetown

Carmen Hance
Ulkatcho Band, Anahim Lake

Adolescent Health Survey 3 Inter Ministry Committee

Barry Anderson
Director of the Information
Department
Ministry of Education

Jenni Bard/Sheri Landles
Community Programs Division
Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor
General

Jayne Barker
Mental Health and Youth Programs
Ministry of Children & Family
Development

Mark Creighton
Director of Legislation & Inter-
agency Branch
Ministry of Human Resources

Les Foster (Chair)
Assistant Deputy Minister
Research & Knowledge Transfer
Ministry of Children & Family
Development

Anne Kent
Manager, Child & Youth Health
Children's, Women's & Seniors
Health Branch
Population & Health Wellness
Division
Ministry of Health Services

Alex Mann
Policy and Research Analyst
Ministry of Education

Wayne Mitic
Program Manager
Office for Children and Youth

Marilyn Shinto (Chair)
Senior Manager
Accountability & Performance
Improvement Branch
Ministry of Children & Family
Development

Elise Wickson
Director
Women's & Seniors Branch
Ministry of Community, Aboriginal
and Women's Service

Wayne Wei
Performance Management Analyst
Accountability & Performance
Improvement Branch
Ministry of Children & Family
Development

Adolescent Health Survey 3 Advisory Committee

Moyra Baxter
BC School Trustees' Association

Sunny Hill Health Centre for
Children

Linda Bearinger
Professor & Director
School of Nursing
Centre for Adolescent Nursing
University of Minnesota (Twin Cities)

Nadine Johnson
Public Health Nursing Managers
Council

Nadine Loewen
Health Officers Council

Faye Bebb
Manager
Children & Women's Health Centre
of BC

Chris Lovato
Associate Professor
Dept. of Health Care &
Epidemiology
University of British Columbia
Colin Mangham
Director
Prevention Source BC

David Cox
Associate Professor
Department of Psychology
Simon Fraser University

Pat Mauch
Public Health Nurse
Vancouver Coastal Health Authority

Nancy Galambos
Department of Psychology
University of Victoria
Cathy Hull
Office of the Provincial Health
Officer

Heather Middleton
Industry Liaison
Prevention Division
Workers Compensation Board

Catherine Jeffery
Coordinator
Sexual Health Resource Centre

Mary Paone
Clinical Nurse Specialist

Youth Health Program
Children's & Women's Health Centre
of BC

Michael Resnick
Professor of Pediatrics & Director of
Research
National Teen Pregnancy Prevention
Division of General Pediatrics
University of Minnesota

MaryLynn Rimer
Children's Commission

Irving Rootman
Professor
Faculty of Human and Social
Development
University of Victoria

John Woudzia
BC School Superintendents' Assn..

Funding Agencies

BC Gaming Commission

BC Ministry of Children and Family Development

Canadian Health Network, Health Canada

Summer Career Placement, Human Resource Development Canada

Population and Public Health Branch, BC/Yukon Region, Health Canada

BC Children's Hospital Fund

McCreary Youth Foundation

Publications List

(2003-2004)

Healthy Youth Development: Highlights from the 2003 Adolescent Health Survey III (2004). Vancouver, British Columbia: The McCreary Centre Society.

Regional Reports for AHS III:

Healthy Youth Development: Northwest Region (2004). Vancouver, British Columbia: The McCreary Centre Society.

Healthy Youth Development: Northern Interior Region (2004). Vancouver, British Columbia: The McCreary Centre Society.

Healthy Youth Development: Thompson Cariboo Shuswap Region (2004). Vancouver, British Columbia: The McCreary Centre Society.

Healthy Youth Development: Okanagan Region (2004). Vancouver, British Columbia: The McCreary Centre Society.

Healthy Youth Development: Coast Garibaldi/North Shore Region (2004). Vancouver, British Columbia: The McCreary Centre Society.

Healthy Youth Development: Kootenay Region (2004). Vancouver, British Columbia: The McCreary Centre Society.

Healthy Youth Development: East Kootenay Region (2004). Vancouver, British Columbia: The McCreary Centre Society.

Healthy Youth Development: North Vancouver Island Region (2004). Vancouver, British Columbia: The McCreary Centre Society.

Healthy Youth Development: Central Vancouver Island Region (2004). Vancouver, British Columbia: The McCreary Centre Society.

Healthy Youth Development: South Vancouver Island Region (2004). Vancouver, British Columbia: The McCreary Centre Society.

Healthy Youth Development: Vancouver Region (2004). Vancouver, British Columbia: The McCreary Centre Society.

Healthy Youth Development: Richmond Region (2004). Vancouver, British Columbia: The McCreary Centre Society.

Healthy Youth Development: Fraser Region (2004). Vancouver, British Columbia: The McCreary Centre Society.

Healthy Youth Development: Fraser North Region (2004). Vancouver, British Columbia: The McCreary Centre Society.