



Fraser Valley Aboriginal Children and Family Services Society

Board of Directors
#7-7201 Vedder Road
Chilliwack, BC V2R 4G5

Phone: 604-858-0113
Fax: 604-824-5326
Toll Free: 1-800-663-9393

www.fvacfss.ca

September 28, 2023

Dear Community Members,

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Fraser Valley Aboriginal Children and Family Services Society (FVACFSS) will take place on **Tuesday, November 14, 2023 from 6:00pm to 9:00pm at the Shxwhá:y Village Cultural Centre located at 44692-B Skway Road, Chilliwack, B.C.** A dinner will be served at 5:00pm. The purpose of the meeting is to fulfill the standard AGM requirements of a Society and to elect two Directors to the Board of FVACFSS. The enclosed AGM package includes the following:

1. **AGM Notice** - provides a draft AGM agenda and additional information about the meeting. Meeting Registration for Society members is from 3:00pm to 5:30pm and will require photo identification and a document with your current residential address. Acceptable forms of identification are Passport, Driver Licence and Status Card as well as a recently dated utility bill or other form of documentation with your current residential address. Individuals with a valid membership card must register prior to **5:30pm** and receive a voting card in order to vote at the AGM.
2. **Membership Form** – provides information regarding membership eligibility and how to become a member of FVACFSS. You will require a valid membership card, signed by a FVACFSS Board Director, in order to vote at the AGM. We will be pleased to take your membership applications or renewals at FVACFSS offices every day leading up to the AGM. We will also accept membership applications at the AGM venue prior to 5:30pm. Individuals who do not have a validated membership card prior to **5:30pm** will not be able to register for and vote at the AGM.
3. **Nominations Meeting Notice** - that provides details regarding a Nominations Meeting that will take place on Thursday, October 19, 2023 from 5:00pm to 7:00pm. It is important to note that all nominations for Board members must be received prior to the **5:00pm** start of the Nominations meeting and approved by the Nominations Committee in order to be included on the ballot of Director Candidates at the AGM. There will not be an opportunity to put forward nominations during the AGM.
4. **Nomination Form** – that provides information on how to nominate a FVACFSS member for the two Board of Director seats up for election at the AGM. If you wish to propose a nomination please follow the instructions on the form and submit the completed form to Carissa Gray at FVACFSS prior to 1:00pm on Thursday October 19, 2023, or hand deliver it to the Nominations Committee between 3:00pm and 5:00pm on October 19th at the venue of the Nominations Meeting. Nominations not received prior to the **5:00pm** start time of the Nominations meeting will not be included in the review of nominees for the AGM election of directors.
5. **Draft AGM Minutes** – from the November 21, 2022 AGM, for your review. During the AGM we will be seeking approval of the draft minutes.

6. **Summary Financial Statements** – includes a copy of the audited financial statements for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2023. We will present the financial statements and the Auditor's report at the AGM.

7. **FVACFSS Annual Report** - describes our priority initiatives and accomplishments for the year. It also includes a description of programs, messages from the Board and Management Team.

All members attending the AGM are required to bring two pieces of identification in order to register as a voting member: (1) proof of identification with a signature that matches their membership application form (i.e. valid passport, drivers license, Status Card, etc.) as well as, (2) a document confirming your current residential address (i.e. utility bill or other recently dated document with your residential address).

If you have any questions about the AGM process or documents in this package, please contact Carissa Gray, by phone at 236-984-5362, or e-mail her at agm@xyolhemeylh.bc.ca

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jennifer Janik". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jennifer Janik
FVACFSS Board President

See Attachments



Fraser Valley Aboriginal Children and Family Services Society

Board of Directors
#7-7201 Vedder Road
Chilliwack, BC V2R 4G5

Phone: 604-858-0113
Fax: 604-824-5326
Toll Free: 1-800-663-9393

www.fvacfss.ca

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the members of Fraser Valley Aboriginal Children and Family Services Society (**FVACFSS**) will be held at the **Shxwhá:y Village Cultural Centre** located at 44692-B Skway Road, Chilliwack, B.C. on Tuesday, November 14, 2023 at 6:00PM, PST, for the following purposes:

1. To confirm the current membership of FVACFSS.
2. To approve the minutes from the November 21, 2022 Annual General Meeting.
3. To receive annual reports from the Directors.
4. To present the FVACFSS audited financial statements and Auditor's report.
5. To appoint the Auditor for FVACFSS.
6. To confirm FVACFSS Board nominations approved at the October 19, 2023 Nominations meeting.
7. To elect two Directors to the FVACFSS Board from the list of approved nominations.

In accordance with the Society's Constitution & Bylaws:

- Quorum must be present for transaction of business at the meeting.
- All members in good standing must register prior to the start of the meeting and receive a voting card in order to vote on motions.
- Voting on motions or resolutions shall be in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order.
- Additional nominations to the Board will **not** be received from the floor at the meeting.
- All nominees up for election to the Board must be present at the meeting.
- Ballots will be used for election of Board candidates.

FURTHER INFORMATION:

- Membership renewals may be processed any day leading up to the membership cut off of 5:30pm on the date of the AGM. Individuals who do not have a validated membership card prior to **5:30pm** will not be able to register for and vote at the AGM.
- Meeting registration will take place prior to the meeting between 3:00pm and 5:30pm at the AGM venue on November 14, 2023. Individuals with a valid membership card must register prior to **5:30pm** and receive a voting card in order to vote at the AGM.
- Photo identification and a document with proof of current residential address will be required to register (i.e. Passport, Drivers License, Status Card, and a recently dated utility bill or other document with your current residential address).
- For information regarding membership please contact Carissa Gray, by phone at 236-984-5362, or e-mail her at agm@xyolhemeylh.bc.ca
- A dinner will be served from 5:00pm to 5:45pm prior to the AGM.

DATED at the City of Chilliwack, in the Province of British Columbia, this 28th day of September, 2023.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jennifer Janik
FVACFSS Board President



Fraser Valley Aboriginal Children and Family Services Society

Board of Directors
#7-7201 Vedder Road
Chilliwack, BC V2R 4G5

Phone: 604-858-0113
Fax: 604-824-5326
Toll Free: 1-800-663-9393

FVACFSS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

STEPS TO BECOME A MEMBER OR RENEW MEMBERSHIP

In order to become a member of FVACFSS and vote at the Annual General Meeting on November 14, 2023 you will require a valid FVACFSS membership card (i.e. **signed by two Board Directors and with a date that has not expired**). If you would like to renew your membership or become a member of the Society, please fill in the information below and submit it to FVACFSS at the contact details below, or bring the form and your Identification with you to the meeting for processing during registration between 3:00pm and 5:30pm.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO BECOME A MEMBER

Individuals who are entitled to be members of the Society are "Aboriginal People" over the age of 18 and who:

1. Reside Off reserve and within the FVACFSS Geographic Service Area.
2. Reside On a reserve of a First Nations Community located within the FVACFSS Geographic Service Area, and such First Nations Community has committed to receive services from FVACFSS by way of a Band Council Resolution.

Individuals who reside outside of the FVACFSS Geographic Service Area, or on the Reserve of a First Nation Community that does not receive services from FVACFSS, are not eligible to be members of the Society. If you have any questions about membership eligibility, contact Carissa Gray, by phone at 236-984-5362, or e-mail her at agm@xyolhemeylh.bc.ca

MEMBER APPLICANT INFORMATION

Please fill in the following information and mail or hand deliver it to Carissa Gray at #7 - 7201 Vedder Road, Chilliwack, BC V2R 4G5 or via e-mail at agm@xyolhemeylh.bc.ca. You may also bring the completed form with you to the meeting venue prior to the **registration cut off of 5:30pm**. All members attending the AGM are required to bring two pieces of identification in order to register as a voting member: (1) proof of identification with a signature that matches their membership application form (i.e. valid passport, drivers license, Status Card, etc.) as well as, (2) a document confirming your current residential address (i.e. utility bill or other recently dated document with your residential address).

Name (as written on I.D.)	Affiliation (First Nations, Métis, Inuit)	18 or over (Yes/No)

If you live On Reserve, please provide the name of Reserve:

Street Address	City / Town	Postal Code

Phone Number	E-mail Address

Signature of Applicant

Date of Application

FVACFSS BOARD USE ONLY

ID with Signature (confirmed)	Proof of Residency (confirmed)	Assigned Membership Card Number



Fraser Valley Aboriginal Children and Family Services Society

Board of Directors
#7-7201 Vedder Road
Chilliwack, BC V2R 4G5

Phone: 604-858-0113
Fax: 604-824-5326
Toll Free: 1-800-663-9393

NOTICE OF NOMINATIONS MEETING

Notice is hereby given, that **Fraser Valley Aboriginal Child and Family Services Society (FVACFSS)** will hold a Nominations Meeting at Coast Chilliwack Hotel – Fraser Room, located at 45920 First Avenue, Chilliwack, BC on Thursday October 19, 2023 from 5:00pm to 7:00pm. The purpose of this meeting includes the following:

1. To provide a final opportunity for individuals to hand deliver nominations of prospective candidates for the Board of FVACFSS to be voted on at the FVACFSS AGM. Note the deadline for all nominations to the Board of FVACFSS will be **5:00pm** on Thursday October 19, 2023.
2. To provide Society members with an overview of the process for selecting nominees to be included on the ballot of potential board members for election at the November 14, 2023 AGM.
3. To review received nominations and confirm the candidates to be included on the ballot for the Board election at the AGM.

Please note individuals must be a member of FVACFSS in order to put forward a nomination, and all prospective nominees must be members of the Society. At the Nominations Meeting we will accept membership applications for review and approval. Nomination forms may be submitted by either:

1. Send in your completed and signed nomination forms to Carissa Gray at #7-7201 Vedder Road, Chilliwack, BC V2R 4G5. tel: 236-984-5362, e-mail: agm@xyolhemeylh.bc.ca prior to the date of the nominations meeting and follow up with Carissa to confirm she has received it and the form is complete. The deadline for submitting nominations to Carissa Gray is **1:00pm** on Thursday October 19, 2023.
2. Hand deliver nomination forms directly to the Nominations Committee from **3:00pm to 5:00pm** Thursday October 19, 2023 at the Coast Chilliwack Hotel venue listed above.

In order to ensure that all board candidates are adequately vetted prior to the election, we will not be receiving nominations after **5:00pm** on October 19th and will **NOT** be receiving nominations from the floor during the AGM on November 14, 2023.

Please contact Carissa Gray, by phone at 236-984-5362, or e-mail her at agm@xyolhemeylh.bc.ca if you would like to receive a Board of Directors Nomination Form or would like to submit a completed nominations form.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jennifer Janik
FVACFSS Board President



Fraser Valley Aboriginal Children and Family Services Society

Board of Directors
#7-7201 Vedder Road
Chilliwack, BC V2R 4G5

Phone: 604-858-0113
Fax: 604-824-5326
Toll Free: 1-800-663-9393

BOARD OF DIRECTOR NOMINATION FORM

Nomination forms must be received by FVACFSS before **5:00pm on Thursday October 19, 2023** in order for the nominee to be eligible for the AGM Board election. All nomination forms received by the deadline will be reviewed by the Nominations Committee to confirm the Nominee's eligibility and applicable experience, using the nomination criteria listed on page 2 of this form. Please provide all of the information requested on page 1 and 2 of this form.

Nomination forms may be: 1) mailed, faxed or hand delivered to Carissa Gray at FVACFSS before **1:00pm** October 19, 2023, at #7-7201 Vedder Road, Chilliwack, BC V2R 4G5, tel: 236-984-5362 e-mail: agm@xyolhemeylh.bc.ca or 2) submitted in person at the FVACFSS Nominations Meeting on October 19, 2023 from **3:00pm to 5:00pm** at the Coast Chilliwack Hotel – Fraser Room, located at 45920 First Avenue, Chilliwack, BC

All nominees considered for election must be a current member of FVACFSS and be present at the AGM.

PLEASE FILL IN ALL OF THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION AND SUBMIT THE COMPLETED FORM TO FVACFSS .

NOMINEE – For Consideration for the FVACFSS Board of Directors (must be a member of FVACFSS)

Name of Nominee: _____

Full Home Address with City or Town: _____

Phone Numbers: _____

Affiliation (First Nation, Métis, or Urban) _____

If Living On Reserve Please Provide the Name: _____

Current Membership Card Number: _____

Signature of Nominee _____

NOMINATORS – Each Nomination requires two Nominators who are current members of FVACFSS.

1st NOMINATOR

2nd NOMINATOR

Name of Nominator: _____

Home Address: _____

Home Phone #: _____

Affiliation: _____

Current Membership Card Number: _____

Nominator Signature: _____

Witness: _____

Print Witness Name

Witness Signature

NOMINEE QUALIFICATIONS

In order for the FVACFSS Board to effectively carry out its governance mandate we are seeking Board members that meet certain qualifications. Specifically, successful Board candidates may have some or all of the following qualifications. Please fill in your qualifications for each of the criteria listed below that are applicable to you and include this with page one of this nominations form. The information included in this form will be used by the Nominations Committee to confirm candidates to be included on the ballot for elections at the November 14, 2023 AGM.

PLEASE FILL IN ALL OF THE CANDIDATE QUALIFICATIONS AND SEND TO FVACFSS PRIOR TO THE AGM

	Criteria	Nominee's Related Qualifications	Review
1	A member of FVACFSS with a validated membership card and resides within geographic service area.		
2	Describe any prior experience you have as a director for a non-profit society.		
3	Describe your knowledge of Stó:lô, Métis, Inuit, or Aboriginal language, culture, and history.		
4	Describe your knowledge of Aboriginal Peoples child welfare history.		
5	Describe any post secondary education you have that is relevant to the purposes of the society.		
6	Describe any demonstrated life and work experience you have that is relevant to the purposes of the society.		
7	Do you have a clean criminal record, upon performing a criminal records check?		
8	Will you commit to attaining the purposes of the society?		
9	I do not hold a political position with a First Nation or Urban Aboriginal Organization.		

Any other skills or qualifications that are not already listed that are relevant to the FVACFSS Board can be listed on the back of this page.

NOMINEE DECLARATION:

By signing and dating the space below, I (Print Name: _____) hereby accept to be a nominee to be considered by the FVACFSS Nominations Committee for the ballot of prospective Board members at the FVACFSS AGM to be held on November 14, 2023. In accordance with the FVACFSS Constitution and By-laws I accept to have a criminal records check done if elected at the AGM. I also hereby declare that I do not currently hold a political position within a First Nation or Urban Aboriginal group, and that all of the information provided above is accurate and subject to verification at any time by representatives of FVACFSS.

Signature of Nominee

Date



Minutes of the Annual General Meeting
Monday, November 21, 2022 at 6:00 pm
The'ítseliya - S.A.Y. Health & Community Centre
7256 Chilliwack River Road, Chilliwack BC

Board Members Present:

- Dr. Wenona Hall, President
- Marion Mussell, Vice President
- Jennifer Janik, Treasurer
- Glenda Campbell, Secretary
- Peter John, Board Director
- Paula Olmstead, Board Director
- Tammy Bartz, Board Director
- Jolene Irons-McDivitt, Board Director
- Jade Victor, Board Director

1. WELCOME AND OPENING

At 5:12 pm, Chief Mark Point from Sq'ewqeyl First Nation welcomed the attending community members to the Annual General Meeting (AGM).

FVACFSS Board President, Dr. Wenona Hall, announced that registration would close at 6:00 pm and that all members who wished to vote at the AGM must be registered by 6:00 pm.

Dr. Hall explained that question cards will be distributed to each table. If anyone has a question for the nominees, for Xyólheméylyh, or has any suggestions or concerns, attendees may write their question on the cards, and they will be collected and reviewed.

Maria Reed #39 requested an addition to the agenda, that one of the Xyólheméylyh Elders read a letter from the Elders. Dr. Hall acknowledged the request and said we can respond to this after the meeting has commenced.

At 5:16 pm, an opening dinner song was performed by Terry Prest and Eddie Williams, and dinner was served for all attending community members.

At 5:34 pm Jennifer Janik announced that Pil'alt Warrior Family would now perform a dance. The Pil'alt Warrior family thanked the attendees and Xyólheméylyh for having them join and perform today.

2. CALL TO ORDER

The FVACFSS AGM meeting was called to order at 6:19 pm by Board President, Dr. Wenona Hall. Elder Louise Silver-Kaarsmaker from Semá:th asked for a moment of silence to remember the children in care and then opened the meeting with a prayer.

Dr. Hall thanked the cooks for preparing dinner and thanked Lousie Silver-Kaarsmaker for opening with a prayer. Dr. Hall also thanked Sq'ewqeyl for allowing us to hold the meeting within their territory.

Dr. Hall announced that it is now 6:23 pm and member registration was closed at 6:00 pm. Dr. Hall stated that all Society members who registered prior to 6:00pm are eligible to vote during the meeting and are requested to use their voting paddles for all votes on motions, or when speaking, so their names could be recorded in the AGM minutes.

Dr. Hall introduced Darcy Paul from Sq'ewqeyl First Nation to the meeting attendees and asked for a motion to confirm him as Chair for the AGM.

MOTION: To confirm Darcy Paul as the Annual General Meeting Chair.
Moved by Derek Epp #43, seconded by Deborah Young #31

Carried by consensus

Darcy thanked the meeting attendees for confirming him as Chair of the AGM. Darcy recognized all the people for attending, for those visiting from far away, and also thanked the children in attendance.

The Chair announced that 68 registered members were in attendance at the meeting and, according to the FVACFSS By-laws, the meeting had the necessary quorum to conduct business.

The Chair presented the AGM agenda to the meeting attendees and asked for a motion to approve the agenda.

MOTION: To approve the agenda for the November 21, 2022 AGM.
Moved by Maria Reed #39, seconded by Angelina Bowen #58

Carried by consensus

3. REVIEW MEETING MINUTES

The Chair asked the membership to review the Draft Annual General Meeting minutes dated December 10, 2021, as included in their AGM package. The members were given some time to review the minutes before requesting a motion to accept the minutes.

MOTION: To approve the minutes of the December 10, 2021 Annual General Meeting.
Moved by Angelina Bowen #58, seconded by Raven Little #15

Carried by consensus

4. BOARD DIRECTOR ELECTION PROCESS

The Chair introduced the Nominations Committee Chair, Marion Mussell.

Marion Mussell explained that the FVACFSS By-laws Section 5.5 c) states that nominees must be present at the AGM in order to be included on the ballot for the Board Director election. Ms. Mussel stated that one of the approved nominees is not present at the meeting and therefore will be struck from the ballot.

Chief Derek Epp asked who the absent nominee is. Ms. Mussell replied that Thelma Florence is absent and will therefore be removed from the ballot. There were no further questions.

Ms. Mussell explained that a Nominations Committee was established, consisting of three Board Directors and four community members, as follows:

- Marion Mussell - Board Director
- Jolene Irons-McDivitt - Board Director
- Jade Victor - Board Director
- Sheradon Roberts - Soowahlie
- Dayna Mussell - Sqwà
- Peter Lang - Métis
- Kayl Graydon - Urban (Snuneymuxw)

On October 24, 2022, the Nominations Committee met to review nominees for the Board of Director elections to be held at the AGM on November 21, 2022. The Committee reviewed nine nominations in total, and determined that eight nominations met the criteria and were approved.

A letter describing the results of the Nominations Committee meeting and listing the successful candidates for the AGM Board election was sent to FVACFSS members and community stakeholders. With the removal of one of the nominees from the ballot, due to their absence today, the list of candidates for the Board Director election includes the following:

1. Angelina Bowen
2. Gladys Rosencrans
3. Glenda Campbell
4. Jennifer Janik
5. Joshua Bailey
6. Phil Hall
7. Dr. Wenona Hall

Ms. Mussell stated that information describing each candidate's experience was provided in the AGM package for members to review prior to the election. Ms. Mussell introduced the seven candidates in attendance and invited them to the front of the room to provide some information about themselves to the meeting assembly. All candidates provided an overview of their work and volunteer experience that is relevant to serving children and families and thanked the membership for the opportunity to be a candidate for the Board.

Ms. Mussell introduced the Electoral Officer, JoAnn Jimmie, from Squiala First Nation to the meeting attendees. Ms. Jimmie provided an overview of the election process. She explained that five Board seats are up for election, and the names of seven candidates are listed on the ballot. She further explained that registered members could vote for up to five candidates by putting an X next to their name on the ballot, and that any ballots that included more than five Xs would be considered spoiled and not counted.

At 6:55 pm, the Chair announced that the Board Director election process was officially open and would remain open for 30 minutes, closing at 7:25 pm.

5. AGM REPORTS

The Chair introduced Board President, Dr. Wenona Hall, to present the President's Report.

President's Report

Dr. Wenona Hall introduced herself to the membership and acknowledged the prayers from the Elders and Darcy Paul for chairing the AGM. The highlights from the President's report were as follows:

The Board held a strategic Planning Session in June 2022 where we reviewed of the Agency Vision, Mission and Core Values reviewed and renewed the Board's goals and work plan. The Board Goals are as follows:

1. A Culturally Vibrant Workplace
2. Human Resources Processes and Procedures
3. A Place Where Employees are Engaged, Make a Difference, and are Accountable
4. Sound Financial Management and Reporting
5. Building and Strengthening Relationships with Communities
6. Strengthen and Ensure Culturally Relevant Practice and Delegated Programs that are Compliant with Standards
7. Enhance and ensure family strengthening programs are culturally relevant and promote family and community involvement.

The Board held a Vision and Dream Day in September to review things within Xyólheméylh that are working well and things that could work better and put our minds together to address and discuss them.

Dr. Hall provided an overview of the various Board Committees along with their purpose and goals. The Board committees are as follows:

- President ELT Committee
- Executive Committee
- Board Orientation Committee
- Governance Manual Committee
- Communications Committee
- TAC Committee
- Cultural Committee
- Finance Committee

Dr. Hall gave an overview of the different training sessions that the Board has undergone during Board Orientation Meetings this past year. The Board covered the following topics in 2022:

- Caregivers & Caregiver Recruitment
- Funding Contracts
- Protocol Agreements
- FVACFSS Training Department
- Recruitment & SAFE Modules

The Chair thanked Dr. Hall for her report and welcomed Kyla Darby, EDOP to present the Operations Report.

Territorial Acknowledgement

Kyla Darby, Executive Director of Programs, acknowledged that Xyólheméylh are on the traditional and unceded territory of the Stó:lō people and today we are gathered on Sq'ewqeyl First Nation.

The Chair thanked Ms. Darby and welcomed Elder Amy Victor from Cowichan and Cheam First Nations to present the Xyólheméylh Core Values.

Xyólheméylh Core Values - Elder Amy Victor

Elder Amy Victor greeted the attendees of the meeting and reviewed the Xyólheméylh Core Values, and provided a teaching of the core values in Halqemeylem as follows:

Honor - S'olhstexw

Engage - Lexws'ó:les qas Yóyestel (Be willing to do one's work, working together)

Accountable - Telómelthet (Acknowledge)

Respect - Ólhet (Respect someone)

Trust - Q'elmet

The Chair thanked Elder Amy Victor for her report and introduced Penny Trites, Executive Director of Staff and Community Relations, to present the Xyólheméylh Operations Initiatives for each Board Goal.

ELT Operations Initiatives for each Board Goal

Penny Trites, Executive Director of Staff and Community Relations, thanked the attendees of the meeting and acknowledged the Executive Leadership Team (ELT) Kyla Darby, Executive Director of Programs and Rod Spitzig, Executive Director of Administration Services for all their support and work. Ms. Trites spoke about the ELT Operation Initiatives for each Board Director goal.

A Culturally Vibrant Workplace

Ms. Trites reviewed the first Board Goal, a Culturally Vibrant Workplace, and explained that Xyólheméylh established a Board Cultural Advisory Committee in 2021 to ensure culture is at the center of all we do. We continued to enhance our office welcoming spaces with Indigenous art and music, and staff attended events such as Truth and Reconciliation Day, drive through staff appreciation, caregiver support parent events, and virtual events such as our Christmas Party. We have expanded and strengthened the role of the Elders, developed strategies for youth and Elder engagement, enriched cultural teachings internally, ensured that our offices reflect Indigenous culture, and have worked on increasing the morale and sense of belonging with the staff.

Human Resources Processes and Procedures

Ms. Trites explained that Xyólheméylh completed a review of Human Resources and the Training Departments, implemented a new performance coaching and evaluation process, and added four new positions including Director of Human Resources, Training & Organizational Development, Recruitment Specialist, Training Team Leader, and Occupational Health & Safety Administrator. We have ensured that our on-boarding process involves cultural protocols and teachings as well.

A Place Where Employees are Engaged, Make a Difference, and are Accountable

We have worked to improve internal communications with staff, staff recognition, appreciation, and training. To develop a facilities strategic plan we opened a new Youth Hub Office in Chilliwack, a new

Family Support Office in Chilliwack, secured new office space in Mission, and signed a lease with Shx'wha:y Village.

Sound Financial Management and Reporting

Ms. Trites reported that the Finance staff provide services while following federal, provincial, and accounting regulations and we have received a clean financial audit. We have also introduced a new payroll system and streamlined the payroll process with new programs (Synerion & ADP).

Building and Strengthening Relationships with Communities

To help build and strengthen community relationships, Xyólheméylh regularly has art and writing contests for children and youth, and Caregiver Support Parents Training and Networks (i.e., The Whyse Approach with Sandy Balasck, Adolescence, Embracing the Yearly Years in conjunction with Archway, and Caregiver Networks in conjunction with MCFD). Information sharing agreements have been put in place and we are working towards signing Community Walking Together Protocols with the communities we serve. We are partnering with community organizations to develop an urban strategy for away from home children, youth and families we serve is underway, as well as improving how we support and communicate with Caregiver Support Parents.

Strengthen and Ensure Culturally Relevant Practice and Delegated Programs that are Compliant with Standards

Ms. Trites reported that we have increased the use of prevention services and family strengthening meetings, as well as increased support to families and the use of out of care options. We are also ensuring that permanency plans for children and youth in care are at the forefront of planning, and have increased support for youth transitioning out of care, increased support for caregivers, and have put focus on culture and knowledge of our Elders. For the first time, we are seeing requests for service out number protection reports.

We have also increased the use of family placements in order to avoid children having to come into the care system in the first place. We are returning children to family and extended family and ensuring transition processes for youth. Finally, we have increased the implementation of cultural plans for each child to ensure they stay connected to their heritage.

Enhance and ensure family strengthening programs are culturally relevant and promote family and community involvement.

We have worked to ensure that collaborative practices are embedded in all basket practice, culture is incorporated into the work of our teams with families, and that Elders and Youth voices are included in programming. A few examples of these programs are the Indigenous Collaborative Practice Model, Connections through Collaboration, Setting the Table, Journey Around the Medicine Wheel, and Family strengthening and prevention initiatives.

The Chair addressed the meeting assembly to state that there are five and a half minutes remaining to vote.

Visions and Voices Update

The chair welcomed Raven Little to provide a Visions and Voices Presentation.

Raven Little, Youth Programming Coordinator, greeted the attendees of the meeting and presented the Visions and Voices Youth Leadership Group. Ms. Little explained that Visions and Voices is exclusively for youth in care (or previously in care). It is a safe place for children and youth to gather with others in

care and it offers an opportunity to connect, share experiences, build support networks, and develop friendships. Visions and Voices is a space where your voice is heard and valued.

Angel Desjarlais-Willier and Thomas Fay (A.K.A. Rain Myran) introduced themselves and gave a presentation on the Youth Leadership Program, the Vision and Voices' history, logo, upcoming events, and vision.

At 7:27 pm, the Chair addressed the meeting assembly to ask if all the registered members in attendance have had an opportunity had to vote. Hearing that there were no more individuals wishing to vote, the Chair announced that the Board Director election was now closed as of 7:29pm.

Elders Advisory AGM Report

Louise Silver-Kaarsmaker greeted the membership and thanked everyone for attending. She shared stories of her experiences of when she worked for Xyólheméylh. She recognized Xyólheméylh 's fast growth over time and it's change in practice style. Ms. Silver-Kaarsmaker identified that she is proud to be back with Xyólheméylh as a member of the Elder's Advisory and to be a part of Xyólheméylh's change and growth. Ms. Sliver-Kaarsmaker thanked Kyla Darby, Penny Trites, and Laura-Dawn for all their hard work.

Maria Reed introduced herself to the meeting attendees. Ms. Reed thanked the attendees of the meeting, the cooks, and the Board Directors for making the meeting today possible. She commended the leaders at Xyólheméylh for walking alongside us all.

The Elders' Advisory continues to grow larger and works alongside both staff and clients. In the last fiscal year, the Elders Advisory Committee had 25 client referrals, 8 internal referrals, and 4 external referrals in March, 52 referrals in October, and 20 referrals as of the first week in November. They take on a large variety of requests including Collaborative Practice meetings, cultural youth supports, complex case consults, event planning, staff meetings, training development, staff onboarding, healing circles, Basket meetings, interviews, and more.

Prevention Programming Highlights - Stó:lō Basket Tyler Epp

Tyler Epp, Associate Director of Operations Stó:lō, from Tzeachten First Nation thanked Sq'ewqeyl for allowing us to host our AGM on their territory. He thanked the Elders for their guidance and all that they do.

In April, Xyólheméylh worked with communities to distribute funding and implement programs. The total distributed to Stó:lō communities was \$737,470. In the cases where communities already have existing programs and kid's clubs Xyólheméylh provides extra supports through contributing staff and extra funding. In addition, last year Xyólheméylh distributed \$217,345 to communities impacted by the Sumas Lake flood.

Mr. Epp expressed his gratitude for the opportunity to provide supports to communities and families in need. He explained that we are continually engaging, supporting, and building relationships with our communities.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer, Jennifer Janik, provided a summary regarding the Agency's financials and the work of the Finance Committee. Ms. Janik stated that the Finance Committee met in July to review the audit for 2021-2022 and submitted the Audited Year End Financial Statements to the Board of Directors, along with their recommendation for approval.

Ms. Janik acknowledged the work of the Finance Committee over the last year which consisted of herself, Peter John, Tammy Bartz, Glenda Campbell, Jade Victor, Lisa Douglas, Lori Falys, Janice Parsey, Rod Spitzig, and Krista Sidhu. The Finance committee meets every two months to review, approve, and make recommendations to the Board of Directors on financial issues. The Finance Committee reviewed the 2021-22 fiscal year budget in March 2021.

In July 2022 MNP audited the consolidated financial statements and concluded that they fairly represent the organization's financial position as at March 31, 2022. The Finance Committee reviewed and recommended for Board ratification the 2021-22 Audited Financial Statement in July 2022, and the Board of Directors ratified the recommendation in August 2022.

Ms. Janik highlighted that during 2021-22 there was an increase in revenue from \$56.8 Million to \$60.7 Million in order to support an increase in child in care expenses that went up from \$57.1 Million to \$63.5 Million. There were Charitable Donations in the amount of \$37,771 for Christmas Hampers, and we received \$195,000 to help support communities affect by the flooding.

Ms. Janik concluded her presentation and thanked the membership.

Auditor's Report

The Chair introduced Peter Dombowsky, from the audit firm MNP, who presented the audit report that was included in the AGM package distributed to the membership.

Mr. Dombowsky stated that MNP is an independent auditor appointed to perform an audit of the financial statements, and it is the opinion of MNP that the year-end financial statements fairly represent the financials of FVACFSS for the fiscal year 2021-22.

Mr. Dombowsky presented the FVACFSS Statement of Financial Position. In 2022, the net assets were \$5,560,902 and in 2021 it was \$8,380,861. The decrease year over year ties to a deficit of revenue over expenses. Overall, the statement of financial position for 2022 is \$12,897,201, and for 2021 it was \$14,561,250.

Mr. Dombowsky presented the FVACFSS statement of Operations, summarizing that the overall net assets for 2022 is \$5,560,902 and for 2021 it was \$8,380,861.

Mr. Dombowsky presented the statement of Revenue and then the statement of Expenses. There was a \$4M increase in revenue from 2021. In 2022, revenue is at \$60,732,501 and in 2021 it was \$56,851,464. FVACFSS received 6% of funding from the Canada Child Benefits, 16% from ISC, and 78% from the Province of BC. Overall, expenses in 2022 totaled at \$63,590,534 and in 2021 the totaled \$57,194,487.

Mr. Dombowsky summarized that 2022 had a deficit of \$2.8M, there was an accumulated operating surplus of \$2.5M, there were capital asset additions of \$430K.

After completing his presentation, Mr. Dombowsky thanked the membership and asked them if they had any questions about the FVACFSS financials. There were no questions from the attending membership.

Appointment of Auditor

The meeting Chair requested a motion to approve MNP as the External Auditor to conduct the audit of the 2022-2023 year end financials for FVACFSS.

MOTION: To appoint MNP as the Auditor for FVACFSS for the fiscal year 2022-2023.

Moved by Tyler Epp #26, seconded by Angelina Bowen #58

Carried by consensus

6. ELECTION RESULTS

The meeting Chair stated that it was time to announce the election results and introduced Electoral Officer, JoAnn Jimmie. Ms. Jimmie stated that 67 ballots were cast during the election process, and none of the ballots were spoiled. She then read out the names of each of the candidates and their vote counts, as follows:

1. Joshua Bailey – 54 votes
2. Jennifer Janik – 52 votes
3. Glenda Campbell – 50 votes
4. Angelina Bowen – 47 votes
5. Phil Hall – 43 votes
6. Dr. Wenona Hall - 39 votes
7. Gladys Rosencrans – 34 votes

Ms. Jimmie announced that, according to the results of the first ballot and the runoff election, the five elected FVACFSS Board Directors are:

1. Angelina Bowen
2. Glenda Campbell
3. Jennifer Janik
4. Joshua Bailey
5. Phil Hall

The assembly applauded the results of the election. The Chair requested a motion to destroy the ballots.

MOTION: To destroy the ballots.

Moved by Derek Epp #43, seconded by Jody Campbell #56

Carried by consensus

Penny Trites stated that the gifts distributed to the membership for attending the meeting were made by some of the men living in LaLem Xeyíyá:qt, which is Halq'eméylem for “House of the Transforming

Warrior". This is an Indigenous centred healing unit located at Pacific Institution in Semá:th and Mâthxwi territory.

7. CLOSING REMARKS

The Chair thanked the outgoing Board members Dr. Wenona Hall, Peter John, and Marion Mussell, acknowledging their commitment and hard work. Jennifer Janik blanketed and gifted the outgoing Board Directors while Community members came to the front of the room to thank the outgoing FVACFSS Board Directors for all their work.

The new Board members were welcomed to the Board.

Dominic Greene closed the meeting with an honouring song.

The Chair asked for a motion to close the meeting.

MOTION: To adjourn the Annual General Meeting.
Moved by Jade Victor #3, seconded by Tyler Epp #26

Carried by consensus

The meeting was adjourned at 8:29 pm.

Notice of ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Fraser Valley Aboriginal Children and Family Services Society (FVACFSS)

To be held at the

Shxwhá:y Village Cultural Centre
located at
44692-B Skway Road, Chilliwack, B.C.

Thursday, November 14, 2023
At 6:00 PM, PST

Registration will be open from 3pm – 5:30pm



Members must register for the meeting by 6:00pm

Notice of NOMINATIONS MEETING

Fraser Valley Aboriginal Children and Family Services Society (FVACFSS)

To be held at
Coast Chilliwack Hotel – Fraser Room, located at 45920
First Avenue, Chilliwack, BC

Thursday, October 19, 2023
at 5:00 PM, PST.



**Hand Delivered Nomination forms will be accepted at the venue
from 3:00-5:00pm.**