



Annual Report 2010 - 2011



■ ABOUT ACWS

ACWS VISION

We believe in a world free from violence and abuse.

ACWS MISSION

The Alberta Council of Women's Shelters is a province-wide, voluntary organization supporting women's shelters and their partners through education, research and services for the benefit of abused women and their children.

ACWS BOARD

Barbara Young, President
Karen Pease, Vice President
David Monroe, Secretary
Lois Day, Treasurer
Brigitte Baradoy
Sandra Erminskin
Pat Garrett
Lorne Goddard
Marj Luger
Sister Joanne Macaulay
Janene Moch
Cassie Putman
Edna Willier

ACWS STAFF (2010-2011)

Jan Reimer, Provincial Coordinator
Carolyn Goard, Director of Member Programs and Services
Charleen Shaw, Office Administrator
Ken Seto, Finance and Information Management
Christie Lavan, Communications and Partnerships (mat leave as of January 3)
Dorothy Sam, Project Manager, *Walking the Path Together*
Agnieszka Wyka, Communications and Partnership Advisor (mat leave replacement)
John Ratcliff, Program Director for Domestic Violence and the Workplace
Jennifer Ness, Administrative Assistant Projects

"It warms my heart to know that we have helped (this woman) feel hope again. It may not seem like a lot, but the fact that she can see that a different future for her and her kids is possible, is an enormous accomplishment."

- Shelter Worker



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*Quotes in this report have been taken from the Practical Frameworks for Change Project and the Alberta Data Count



“For the first time in a long time I felt safe. I cannot express how much I appreciate all the help and support they have given me and my children. I definitely could not have done this or gone through this without them. It is an amazing feeling to know there are people who really care.”

“Without shelter services, I don’t know if I could have taken the steps to leave.”



1. Leadership Messages

ACWS PRESIDENT

This has been another active year for the Alberta Council of Women's Shelters. Key areas that have been the focus of activities this year include:

Strategic Plan

The Board met early in their term to review proposed updates to the Strategic Plan. While this is a long term plan minor revisions were made to ensure that it was still relevant. The Strategic Plan is available on the ACWS website.

Violence Against Aboriginal Women and Women from Diverse Cultural Backgrounds

Alberta shelter data reflect that not only do aboriginal women form a large proportion of women accessing shelter both on and off reserve, but that they are the most likely to leave shelters early and are among those at highest risk. Also, in urban centers particularly, we are experiencing an increasing number of immigrant women seeking our services. These women come with distinct issues that need to be addressed. Concern related to these groups has led us to look at what we are doing to support Aboriginal women and women from other cultures.

Over the last few years a number of initiatives have been undertaken to assist aboriginal women:



Barbara Young, ACWS President

- Funding concerns with respect to on-reserve shelters, while not resolved, have been profiled and threats of immediate cuts in federal funding addressed. In the last year we have also raised the issue of administrative funding agreements between the federal and provincial government, issuing a position paper that raises awareness of the issue and points out that funds received by the province from the federal government for Aboriginal women in off-reserve shelters need to be directed toward helping shelters rather going into general revenue.
- Walking the Path – this program, which provides mentorship to young on-reserve aboriginal seven year old Children and their families, has received great support and has produced some very heartening results. We look forward to ensuring that it will continue in the future.

As a consequence of our review of the need to further address the issues related to

■ LEADERSHIP MESSAGES

aboriginal women we hope to allocate more time at our meetings to dealing with education related to how shelters can enhance services for Aboriginal women and children as well as developing task forces to address specific issues. A survey is being distributed at the AGM seeking input on initiatives, their prioritization and volunteers to assist in their implementation.

Initiatives to assist with the increased number of immigrant women in shelter include adding languages spoken in shelter to the Compendium of Services which supports their providing programs and the forging of a partnership with Legal Aid through Practical Frameworks for Change, which has assisted women with legal issues.

Shelter Staff Development

A leadership training program was developed in cooperation with the University of Calgary Faculty of Management by the SPEC committee and presented to a large representation of Shelter Directors and Senior Shelter Staff in October. The Outcomes Conference offered staff development opportunities with three specific training sessions – Legal Aid, Danger Assessment and Children’s Training as well as showcasing the leading edge work that shelters are doing.

National Network

ACWS continued to act as the fiscal agent for the national network of shelters. This role will continue until they are sufficiently established to carry this out themselves.

Organization

The Board of ACWS is committed to being responsive to membership needs. We have increased attendance of Board members at Shelter Director Meetings, canvassing membership for concerns and developing strategies to address them. To ensure that we are structured appropriately to meet member needs the Board has initiated an organizational review process. It is intended that this process be inclusive of members and build on what we have done well to make the organization stronger and more effective in the future.

Data Base Implementation

In 2010 the new data base to replace Homes was selected and the majority of shelters in the province began implementation of the new software, Outcome Tracker, in September. The ad hoc committee to implement this process has spent many hours working on ensuring that this is effectively carried out.

Relationships with Government

ACWS works with many government funders including the major shelter funders such as Alberta Children and Family Services and INAC. Please see the back of this report where we acknowledge our many wonderful funders. A number of initiatives have been undertaken to assist government in understanding and implementing funding related initiatives and in developing positive working relationships. These include:

- The Long Term Working Group (LTWG) – This group completed its work in 2010 but was extended at government request to advise as work continues to finalize the Logic Model which will be implemented and evaluation of its effectiveness undertaken. ACWS members of the Long Term Working Group are Carolyn Goard (co-chair), Karen Pease, Cassie Putnam, Jean Dunbar, Jennifer Gullage, Sherrie Botten, Sister Lucinda, Nora-Lee Rear, and Barbara Young.



2010/2011 Board

President & Chair – Barbara Young

Vice President – Karen Pease

Secretary – David Monroe

Treasurer – Lois Day

Members – Marj Luger, Pat Garrett, Sister Joanne Macaulay, Cassie Putnam, Brigitte Baradoy, Sandra Ermineskin, Lorne Goddard, Janene Moch, Edna Willier

- Second Stage Shelter Concerns - A meeting was held with a number of government ministers and their staff to address funding concerns related to Second Stage shelters as part of the continuum of services provided by shelters. Of particular concern is ensuring that government understand the need for specific shelters for victims of violence. The staff from Children and Family Services has been very supportive in this initiative.

Barbara Young
ACWS President



PROVINCIAL CO-ORDINATOR'S MESSAGE

This last year has truly demonstrated the power of working together!

First, shelters banded together to use their collective knowledge and buying power to select a software replacement based on member needs, with an overall estimated savings of approximately \$1,000,000 on software, when compared to the costs going it alone – and this doesn't even include the ongoing savings that are realized! The phenomenal work done by both the Ad Hoc Software Implementation Committee and the Ad Hoc Shelter Directors Data Group supported by Carolyn Goard and consultant Irene Hoffart has positioned the Alberta Council of Women's Shelters and their members to collect data to strongly articulate the important, life saving work that shelters do on a daily basis. There is no question that our collective efforts will inform service provision, policy and funding practices.

Inspired by the 1st World Conference of Women's Shelters, ACWS and eight member shelters worked tirelessly together to conceive and implement the Practical Frameworks for Change project, introducing and evaluating promising practices learned at the conference to better support women in areas of safety, health and culture. This recently completed report and recommendations have great benefit for all our members as they provide a rich continuum of services to meet the needs of abused women and their children.



The On Reserve Shelters, working together with ACWS, were able to stave off threatened funding cuts from Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC). Two major pieces of work were completed this fiscal year: an examination of the implications of the Administrative Reform Agreement on the work of shelters in Alberta and an evaluation of INAC's progress in implementing recommendations on shelter funding. The work underway with the Walking the Path Together project will provide tools and resources for shelter use across the province – and across the country - when providing interventions for aboriginal children exposed to domestic violence and their families.

Also, by working together, ACWS responded to a request by the Minister of Health and developed a position statement on Responding To The Health Needs Of Women and Children Involved In Domestic Violence. We have been asked to present to government's Standing Policy Committee this fall. Other policy reviews included a feedback paper on the Child Welfare Review, the proposed changes on the Victims of

Crime Fund, and the need for a Death Review Committee.

This year also saw the completion of an ACWS project funded by Alberta Seniors to create guidelines for developing a coordinated community response to the abuse of older adults. Special thanks to our partner shelters at Kerby, SAGE and the Medicine Hat Shelter Society, and the Alberta Elder Abuse Network.

We have also strengthened our linkages across Canada. ACWS is the fiscal agent for the Uniting to End Violence Against Women project which is laying the foundations for a Canadian Network of Women's Shelters. It has been a pleasure to work with Tracy Gierman, Joyce Goodhand and Stéphanie Bédard in our Ottawa office. Together we are also working on the creation of a virtual knowledge centre on shelter practices for UN women. Watch for this in the fall!

With our Domestic Violence in the Workplace Toolkit launched last year, we are working with shelters and community partners to ensure the furthest reach possible! Thanks to funding from the Health Sciences Association of Alberta we are able to develop this initiative as a key ingredient in putting an end to domestic violence.

Working with shelters across the province and Dr. Dawne Clarke from Mount Royal University, a draft curriculum was developed to provide background information and strategies in three major areas: attachment, early brain development, and mediating the

impact of trauma for those working in first and second stage shelters with preschool children and their mothers. A special thanks to Alberta Children and Youth Services and the United Way of Calgary for their significant financial contributions to this project. This work is complemented by our Helping Hands partnership with Edmonton area shelters and the Family Centre which introduced theraplay to pre-school children and shelter workers, funded by the Stollery Foundation.

There have been many other projects we have worked together on: defining a common data set with the province, the Making Amends Project for women escaping violence in rural Alberta, our annual Breakfasts with the Guys, the Alberta, Canadian and Global Data Counts. All of these activities, however, would not be possible without the support of our dedicated members working to leverage our collective knowledge for the benefit of abused women and children and the strong commitment and hard work of ACWS staff. I would like to thank our small but mighty team: Charleen Shaw, Ken Seto, Dorothy Sam, Christie Lavan (now on maternity leave), her replacement, Agnieszka Wyka, Jennifer Ness, John Ratcliffe and Carolyn Goard for the truly amazing work they do.

Jan Reimer

Provincial Coordinator

2. Committee Reports

BOARD GOVERNANCE: DAVID J. MONROE

Strategic Planning

Early in the year the Governance committee reviewed an update to the previous year's strategic plan and recommended that only minor changes reflecting the changed environment were required. The updated strategic plan was approved by the Board in December 2010.

Policy Development

1. Disbanding of Board standing committee

On the recommendation of the Board Governance Committee, the Board agreed in September 2010 to disband the Shelter Information Committee. This committee was initially established while the Shelters used the HOMES system to collect data. An administrative committee was and is handling the conversion to the Outcome Tracker system. Ongoing work will continue at an administrative level with current ad hoc committees until we have a better idea of what we require in the long run. Any strategic issues about data collection coming from Shelter Directors Committees or meetings will still be considered at the Board level.



David J. Monroe,
Chair, Board Governance Committee

2. Aboriginal issues

Many shelters in the province have more than half of their residents of aboriginal background. As a consequence, a need for more information on dealing with the issues faced by Aboriginal women was identified at the Board level of ACWS.

The Governance Committee has been looking into a number of options related to providing support to Shelters in this area. Recommendations have been made to the Board on approaches that could be taken that would result in progress being made in a manner that will be respectful of Aboriginal needs and inclusive in its approach. The terms of reference for a committee to act as advisors in this area were developed and presented to the Board for review.

3. Policy on family violence in the workplace

A policy was developed and presented to the Board for inclusion in the ACWS policy manual.

Preparation for elections to the Board at the AGM

At the time of writing this report, requests for nominations for the election of half the Board members have gone out to the membership. We are confident that by the time of the AGM there will be an attractive slate of candidates seeking election or re-election.

I would like to thank Lois Day, Pat Vargas, Barbara Young, Janene Moch and Jan Reimer for their support and efforts during the year

David J. Monroe

Chair, Board Governance Committee



ON – RESERVE SHELTER COMMITTEE

This year was a busy one for the On Reserve Shelter Committee. We welcomed Kanai Women's Shelter as the newest member of ACWS to our committee and we are very happy that our voice is growing stronger.

Through concerted action, proposed funding reductions announced by Indian and Northern Affairs were halted. We held two meetings with INAC; one of them in Ottawa at which a sub-committee was formed to address parity at a national level but so far there has been no movement on the matter.

We were heartened to learn that those members with fee for service agreements had their caps removed as part of the 2011-12 provincial budget. However, our shelters still face huge struggles; funding inequities are our biggest obstacle and we recognize the need for a strong unified voice for addressing that injustice..

We worked on two major position statements for ACWS: one on the Administrative Reform Agreement; the other on On-Reserve Shelter funding. They are both very important projects which highlight the predominance of domestic violence in Aboriginal communities and the need for the Governments to address funding disparity. We are yet to see any results from these efforts to gain parity and equality for Aboriginal women and children but are hopeful that politicians on all levels will show desire to change the status quo that contributes to the continued oppression of women and children.



Sandra Ermineskin
Chair, On-Reserve Shelter Committee

We brought the following recommendations forward to the ACWS Board:

- The Board has an opportunity to name aboriginal representation to all of the standing committees and should pursue this.
- There are lots of issues that aren't being addressed with respect to violence against aboriginal women; suggest that the membership identify these issues and then form Task Forces to address them.
- There be a dedicated time on the shelter director's agenda – if 50-60% of women are aboriginal then maybe 50-60% of our time should be spent on this. We could share successes, resources and challenges.
- Use the leadership bursary to look at taking leadership to address violence against aboriginal women.

On a very positive note, the Walking the Path Together Project has been a huge success. Our Eagle Feathers Workers have been closely working with women and children

who access our shelters and we are seeing positive results as we strive to ensure safety of the children and help families heal. I am truly proud to say that the Walking the Path Together Project is making strides in helping to end the cycle of violence for our clients.

And finally, it is with mixed emotion that I am stepping down as the voice of On-Reserve Shelters on the ACWS Board. I will continue to be a voice for women and children. First Nations Women and Children still dream and hope for a better tomorrow - and I am dedicated to helping them achieve that dream.

Sandra Ermineskin

Chair, On-Reserve Shelter Committee

“It does our hearts good to know we can help women and children get a fresh start.”

Shelter Worker

SHELTER PROGRAMS & EDUCATION (SPEC)

Women's Shelter Leadership Bursary Program:

Four individual bursaries were awarded to ACWS members for a total of \$12,456. In October, a partnership was formed with ACWS and the University of Calgary's Haskayne School of Business to develop and deliver a two day leadership training. 32 participants from 27 ACWS shelter members took part in this group training. Topics included Leading with Emotional Intelligence, High Performance Negotiating and Community Engagement Strategies.

The Ad Hoc Child Care Committee provided input into the Child Support Training Project partnership with Mount Royal University with a draft curriculum completed and piloted during the 2011 ACWS Outcomes Conference. The Conference also featured two additional training sessions for shelter staff including Legal Aid and Danger Assessment – however SPEC had little participation in that.

Karen Pease
Chair, Shelter Programs and Education



Karen Pease
Chair, Shelter Programs and Education



SOCIAL AND LEGAL ISSUES AND ETHICS COMMITTEE (SLEC)

The role and mandate of the Social, Legal and Ethics Committee (SLEC) includes reviewing the formal response ACWS makes to social, legal and ethical issues that affect victims of domestic violence. Over the past year, SLEC worked on several projects, the most significant being the following two positions papers:

1. Position Paper On Responding To The Health Needs of Women And Children Involved in Domestic Violence.
2. Recommendations to provincial and federal governments regarding revenues from the Administrative Reform Agreement

After consultation with shelter representatives from across the province regarding how to best address health needs of victims of domestic violence, ACWS developed a position paper and submitted it to Alberta Health Services. SLEC reviewed the document to ensure the research and resulting recommendations were consistent with research and ethical standards that ACWS adheres to. In the end SLEC proudly supports the five recommendations outlined in the document. The document and the recommendations can be found on the ACWS website.

3. Administrative Reform Agreement

Clear and significant imbalances surrounding the management of INAC's Admin Reform



Brigitte Baradoy
Chair, Social and Legal Issues and
Ethics Committee

Agreement and the resulting financial hardships for shelters on reserves were addressed in this position paper. Again, SLEC reviewed the document to ensure the research and resulting recommendations were consistent with research and ethical standards that ACWS adheres to. This position paper was submitted to provincial and federal cabinet ministers (and had the very positive result of seeing the cap eliminated on fee for service agreements between the province and on reserve shelters.

In addition to the above position papers, SLEC also completed the annual review of the "Measuring the Progress" and responded to concerns around a conflict of interest clause within funding contracts.

My sincere gratitude goes out to the team that assisted with this work over the year including: Lorne Goddard, Sister Joanne McCaulay, Mike Dickinson, Julie Coleman, Jean Pettifor, Shelly Ernst, Jean Dunbar.

Brigitte Baradoy

Chair, Social and Legal Issues and Ethics Committee



“I didn’t realize that the shelter did as much for women. I thought that i’d just come and sleep here but instead you gave me the knowledge and tools to leave the nightmare behind.”

Slave Lake

“Without shelter services, I don’t know if I could have taken the steps to leave.”

Sherwood Park



3. Financial Statements

**ALBERTA COUNCIL OF
WOMEN'S SHELTERS
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2011**

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Skolney & Company

Chartered Accountants

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AUDITOR'S REPORT

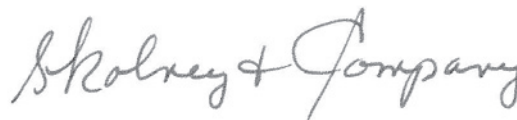
To The Members of
Alberta Council of Women's Shelters

We have audited the statement of financial position of Alberta Council of Women's Shelters as at March 31, 2011 and the statements of operations, changes in net assets and cash flow for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Council's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

Except as explained in the following paragraph, we conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform an audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation.

In common with many charitable organizations, the Council derives revenue from donations from the general public, the completeness of which is not susceptible to satisfactory audit verification. Accordingly, verification of these revenues was limited to the amounts recorded in the records of the Council and we were not able to determine whether any adjustments might be necessary to donation revenues, operations, assets and net assets.

In our opinion, except for the effect of adjustments, if any, which we might have determined to be necessary had we been able to satisfy ourselves concerning the completeness of the donations referred to in the preceding paragraph, these financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Council as at March 31, 2011 and the results of its operations and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles.



June 17, 2011
Edmonton, Alberta

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

ALBERTA COUNCIL OF WOMEN'S SHELTERS
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
AS AT MARCH 31, 2011

	2011	2010
	\$	\$
ASSETS		
CURRENT		
Cash and cash equivalents (Note 2 and 6)	1,770,847	1,258,997
Grant receivable	142,126	10,000
GST receivable	18,860	13,285
	1,931,833	1,282,282
PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT (Notes 2 and 4)	14,430	18,426
	1,946,263	1,300,708
LIABILITIES		
CURRENT		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	73,946	6,894
Unexpended grants (Note 3)	1,382,996	823,093
Deferred contributions related to operations	13,546	6,347
	1,470,488	836,334
NET ASSETS		
UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS	302,895	325,498
INTERNALLY RESTRICTED NET ASSETS (Note 5)	158,450	120,450
INVESTMENT IN EQUIPMENT	14,430	18,426
	475,775	464,374
	1,946,263	1,300,708

APPROVED BY THE BOARD

_____ Director

_____ Director

ALBERTA COUNCIL OF WOMEN'S SHELTERS
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2011

	2011			2010	
	Investment in Property and Equipment \$	Internally Restricted \$	Unrestricted \$	Total \$	Total \$
BALANCE, beginning of year	18,426	120,450	325,498	464,374	443,265
Excess of revenue over expenses	-	-	11,401	11,401	38,361
Transfers to (from) reserves (Note 5)	-	38,000	(38,000)	-	(17,252)
Investment in property and equipment	(3,996)	-	3,996	-	-
BALANCE, end of year	14,430	158,450	302,895	475,775	464,374

ALBERTA COUNCIL OF WOMEN'S SHELTERS
STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2011

	2011	2010
	\$	\$
REVENUES		
Grants (Schedule 1)	1,667,828	984,201
Government of Alberta	250,000	250,000
Donations	142,678	143,104
Casino revenue	71,903	80,240
Status of Women Canada	70,000	30,000
Interest and other income	54,888	10,867
Fundraising	42,415	32,960
Membership fees	29,541	28,550
Registration and workshop fees	22,791	15,096
	<u>2,352,044</u>	<u>1,575,018</u>
EXPENDITURES		
Wages and employee benefits	1,108,908	796,546
Program expenses	942,142	516,389
Office and miscellaneous	80,140	38,447
Occupancy costs	72,750	42,895
Recruitment and training	62,612	70,038
Shelter Emergency Distributions	20,884	13,647
Annual General Meeting	13,393	14,295
Telephone	12,632	7,790
Repairs and maintenance	12,490	20,708
Professional fees	4,782	4,971
Insurance	3,062	1,930
Newsletter and brochures	2,852	3,153
Loss on shares	-	662
Amortization	3,996	5,186
	<u>2,340,643</u>	<u>1,536,657</u>
EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES	<u>11,401</u>	<u>38,361</u>

ALBERTA COUNCIL OF WOMEN'S SHELTERS
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOW
FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2011

	2011	2010
	\$	\$
<hr/>		
OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Excess of revenues over expenditures for the year	11,401	38,361
Items not affecting cash-		
Amortization of property and equipment	3,996	5,186
Change in non-cash working capital items -		
(Increase) decrease in Grants and GST receivable	(137,701)	252,121
Increase in deferred contributions	7,199	6,347
Increase in unexpended grants	559,903	205,811
Increase in accounts payable	67,052	4,419
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	511,850	512,245
<hr/>		
FINANCING AND INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Transfers from reserves	-	(17,252)
Long term Investment	-	9,780
Purchase of property and equipment (net)	-	(11,378)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	-	(18,850)
<hr/>		
INCREASE IN CASH	511,850	493,395
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, beginning of year	1,258,997	765,602
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, end of year	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>
	1,770,847	1,258,997

**ALBERTA COUNCIL OF WOMEN'S SHELTERS
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2011**

1. PURPOSE OF THE ORGANIZATION

The Alberta Council of Women's Shelters (ACWS) was incorporated under the Societies Act of the Province of Alberta on April 11, 1983. The Council is a registered charity and is exempt from income tax under the provisions of paragraph 149(1)(l) of the Income Tax Act. The Alberta Council of Women's Shelters works to

- develop a coordinated, collaborative response to family violence;
- coordinate funding and improve services in order to better meet the needs of abused women, their children and abused seniors;
- educate the public and professionals about prevention of, and responses to, spousal and senior abuse, and
- initiate, conduct and/or participate in research relating to the causes, impacts, prevention of family violence, and elimination of violence against women, children and seniors.

2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles applying the following significant accounting policies:

(A) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents is comprised of the following:

	<u>2011</u>	<u>2010</u>
Cash (overdraft)	\$ 122,832	\$ (41,272)
Cash – casino account	101,489	67,512
Savings account	<u>1,546,526</u>	<u>1,232,757</u>
	<u>\$ 1,770,847</u>	<u>\$ 1,258,997</u>

(B) Revenue Recognition –

The Alberta Council of Women's Shelters follows the deferral method of accounting for contributions. Restricted contributions are recognized as revenue in the year in which the related expenses are incurred. Unrestricted contributions are recognized as revenue when received or receivable if the amount to be received can be reasonably estimated and collections are reasonably assured.

**ALBERTA COUNCIL OF WOMEN'S SHELTERS
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2011**

2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

(C) Equipment

Equipment is carried at cost less accumulated amortization. The Council records amortization over the estimated useful lives of the equipment using the straight-line method at the following annual rates:

Office	20%
Computer	33 1/3%

(D) Measurement Uncertainty –

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements, and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from these estimates.

These estimates and assumptions are reviewed periodically and, as adjustments become necessary they are reported in earnings in the period in which they become known.

**ALBERTA COUNCIL OF WOMEN'S SHELTERS
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2011**

3. UNEXPENDED GRANTS

Unexpended grants represent funds whose resources are to be used for an identified purpose as specified by the agency providing the funds. Management keeps internal records reporting results on project by project basis. The balance of the unexpended funds is comprised of the following:

A. Children Exposed To Family Violence

In a prior year, the Council received funds from the Government of Alberta to develop a curriculum and provide training to shelter workers, child welfare workers and community stakeholders on children exposed to violence so as to reduce the negative impact on children at risk. The unexpended portion at the beginning of the year was \$29,207. During the year, the Council expended \$21,472, leaving an unexpended balance at March 31, 2011 for \$7,735.

B. PFVB – Education

In a prior year, the Council received \$100,000 from Alberta Children's Services to develop and provide training to front line shelter staff. The unexpended port at the beginning of the year was \$4,971. During the year, \$4,971 was expended leaving a \$0 balance at March 31, 2011.

C. Women's Shelter Leadership Bursary

In 2007 – 2008, ACWS received a grant of \$400,000 from Alberta Children's Services to assist senior women shelter staff to enhance their organization leadership capacity. The unexpended portion at the beginning of the year was \$287,588. During the year, the Council received an additional \$285 and \$52,981 was expended on the project leaving an unexpended balance at year end of \$234,892.

D. Workplace Violence – HSAA

In the prior year, the Council entered into a five year funding agreement calling for \$50,000 annual funding with the Health Sciences Association of Alberta to develop a program to address workplace violence. The unexpended portion at the beginning of the year was \$55,268. During the year, the Council received \$63,670 and expended \$53,405 on the project leaving an unexpended balance at March 31, 2011 for \$65,533.

**ALBERTA COUNCIL OF WOMEN'S SHELTERS
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2011**

3. UNEXPENDED GRANTS (continued)

E. International Network Women's Shelter

In a prior year, the Council received \$27,900 to host an International Meeting in Ottawa to develop an International Women's Shelter Network. The unexpended portion at the beginning of the year was \$1,977. During the year, \$1,977 was expended on the project leaving a \$0 balance at March 31, 2011.

F. Practical Frameworks for Change

In a prior year, the Council received \$119,946 to increase women's capacity to establish violence free lives through strengthening Emergency Shelter intervention in ten Alberta shelters in the areas of safety, health and cultural sensitivity. The unexpended portion at the beginning of the year was \$45,801. During the year, \$30,101 was expended leaving an unexpended balance of \$15,700 at March 31, 2011.

G. IODE – Training Fund

In the prior year, the Council received from IODE \$31,346 to help shelter workers to expand their knowledge on family violence and children exposed to domestic violence through the Crisis workers certificate program offered by Portage College. The unexpended portion at the beginning of the year was \$12,446. During the year, \$5,800 was expended on the project leaving an unexpended balance of \$6,646 at March 31, 2011.

H. Walking The Path Together – NCPC

During the year, the Council received \$484,013 from the National Crime Prevention Centre to foster crime prevention in Aboriginal communities by addressing early risk factors in vulnerable families and children at risk. During the year, \$484,013 was expended on the project leaving a \$0 balance at March 31, 2011.

ALBERTA COUNCIL OF WOMEN'S SHELTERS
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2011

3. UNEXPENDED GRANTS (continued)

I. Walking The Path Together - SCIF

In the prior year, the Council received \$286,111 from the Safe Communities Initiative Fund to mitigate the cycle of violence for Aboriginal children in the five Alberta on reserve shelters. The unexpended portion at the beginning of the year was \$198,418. During the year, the Council received \$708,440 and \$359,432 was expended on the project leaving an unexpended balance of \$547,426 at March 31, 2011.

J. Elder Abuse

In the prior year, the Council received \$50,000 to develop an elder abuse prevention and intervention model. The unexpended portion at the beginning of the year was \$6,931. During the year the Council received an additional \$50,000. \$26,790 was expended on the project leaving an unexpended balance of \$30,141 at March 31, 2011.

K. Taking a Stand

In the prior year, the Council received \$40,875 to engage men to change individual and social patterns that perpetuate violence against women (VAW) by facilitating young men's awareness of the root causes of VAW, inspiring a personal drive to participate in change, and empowering them to realize the impact they can have, family violence can be prevented. The unexpended portion at the beginning of the year was \$40,700. During the year, \$22,292 was expended on the project leaving an unexpended balance of \$18,408 at March 31, 2011.

L. Child Care

In the prior year, the Council received \$55,000 to support building provincial capacity for shelter staff to meet the needs of families and children who have experienced family violence. The unexpended portion at the beginning of the year was \$55,000. During the year, the Council received \$100,000 and \$35,100 was expended on the project leaving an unexpended balance of \$119,900 at March 31, 2011.

**ALBERTA COUNCIL OF WOMEN'S SHELTERS
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2011**

3. UNEXPENDED GRANTS (continued)

M. Trend Analysis in AB Shelters

In the prior year, the Council received \$10,000 to analyze the impact of socio-economic trends and patterns on demands for shelter services. During the year, \$10,000 was expended leaving an unexpended balance of \$0 at March 31, 2011.

N. Canadian Women's Foundation – Practical Frameworks

In a prior year, the Council received \$25,000 to provide a two day intensive training on using the Domestic Violence Survivor Assessment (DVSA) to shelter staff. The unexpended portion at the beginning of the year was \$1,451. During the year, \$1,451 was expended on the project leaving an unexpended balance of nil at March 31, 2011.

O. Stollery

In the prior year, the Council received \$50,000 to ensure that young children in Edmonton and area shelters receive an enhanced level of support after exposure to domestic violence. The unexpended portion at the beginning of the year was \$50,000. During the year, \$33,961 was expended on the project leaving an unexpended balance of \$16,039 at March 31, 2011.

P. Uniting to End Violence

In the prior year, the Council received \$27,697 to bring together provincial/territorial shelter organizations across Canada to improve the access to, and quality of, services for women who are in abusive situations. The unexpended portion at the beginning of the year was \$5,941. During the year, the Council received \$457,378 and \$327,645 was expended on the project leaving an unexpended balance of \$135,674 at March 31, 2011.

Q. National Crime Prevention Week Fund

In the prior year, the Council received \$10,000 to draw attention to awareness activities for Victims of Crime Awareness week using life sized silhouettes. The unexpended portion at the beginning of the year was \$7,394. During the year \$7,394 was expended on the project leaving a \$0 balance at March 31, 2011.

**ALBERTA COUNCIL OF WOMEN'S SHELTERS
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2011**

3. UNEXPENDED GRANTS (continued)

R. Global Secretariat

In the prior year, the Council received \$10,000 to unite the women's shelter movement globally to end violence against women and their children. The unexpended portion at the beginning of the year was \$10,000. During the year, \$1,566 was expended on the project leaving an unexpended balance of \$8,434 at March 31, 2011.

S. UN Women-Canadian Network

During the year, the Council received \$53,603 to develop a knowledge module on "Shelters and Safe Spaces for Women and Girls at Risk of or Survivors of Violence". During the year \$11,490 was expended on the project leaving a balance of \$42,113 at March 31, 2011.

T. Canadian Women's Foundation – Violence Prevention Review

During the year, the Council received \$5,000 to facilitate the national exchange of innovative, promising and model shelter practices across Canada and make new advances in the development of high quality services for women experiencing abuse. During the year, \$930 was expended on the project leaving a balance of \$4,070 at March 31, 2011.

U. Justice and Attorney General - Civil Forfeiture

During the year, the Council received \$150,000 to provide increased supports for women residents in rural shelters. The grant is also intended to train workers on Legal Aid processes and procedures to better aid women in shelters. During the year, \$19,715 was expended on the project leaving a balance of \$130,285 at March 31, 2011.

V. Canadian Women's Foundation – Funding and Policy Initiatives

During the year, the Council received \$5,000 to provide an overview of the key issues and trends related to funding and policy issues concerning violence against women. During the year, \$5,000 was expended on the project leaving a balance of \$0 at March 31, 2011.

**ALBERTA COUNCIL OF WOMEN'S SHELTERS
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2011**

4. PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT

	2011		2010	
	Cost \$	Accumulated Amortization \$	Net Book Value \$	Net Book Value \$
Office equipment	\$48,558	\$35,731	\$12,827	\$16,034
Computer equipment	17,591	15,988	1,603	2,392
	<u>\$66,149</u>	<u>\$51,719</u>	<u>\$14,430</u>	<u>\$18,426</u>

5. INTERNAL RESTRICTIONS

The Board of Directors of the Council has allocated funds for specifically identified purposes. The Council may not use these internally restricted funds for any other purpose without the approval of the Board of Directors.

	2011 \$	2010 \$
(a) Stabilization reserve The Council has established a stabilization reserve to hold three months of operating expenses. The Board approved an additional \$10,000 allocation to this reserve during the year.	62,000	52,000
(b) Equipment replacement reserve The Council has established an equipment replacement reserve in order to replace office equipment as it becomes necessary.	5,000	-
(c) World Conference Legacy fund The Council has established a reserve to be used for dissemination and follow up activities related to the first World Conference on Women's Shelters.	68,450	68,450
(d) Outcome Tracker Transition Costs The Council has established a reserve to be used for transition costs by staff.	23,000	-
	<u>158,450</u>	<u>120,450</u>

**ALBERTA COUNCIL OF WOMEN'S SHELTERS
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2011**

6. RESTRICTED FUNDS

Funds gained from a Casino event are placed in a separate bank account. These funds, which total \$101,489 at year end, are restricted in that they may be used for expenses related to operating the charitable gaming event as well as for the purposes stated in the charity's gaming license application. The past license indicated that the funds would be used for occupational costs as well as costs associated with the creation and distribution of the agency's newsletter.

7. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The Council has chosen to follow the disclosure requirements found in Section 3861, Financial Instruments – Disclosure and Presentation, of the Handbook of the Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants.

Financial instruments of the Council consist of cash and cash equivalents, accounts receivable, accounts payable and accrued liabilities. The carrying value of these financial instruments approximates their fair values due to their short-term nature.

It is management's opinion that the company is not exposed to any significant interest, currency or credit risks arising from these financial instruments.

8. COMMITMENT

The Council rents premises under an operating lease which expires February 28, 2012. Annual rental of \$13,126 under this lease expires in 2012.

**ALBERTA COUNCIL OF WOMEN'S SHELTERS
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2011**

9. MANAGEMENT OF CAPITAL

The Council defines its capital as its net assets.

The Council's objectives when managing capital are to meet its financial obligations and to safeguard the ability to continue operations as a going concern.

There were no changes to the Council's overall capital management approach during the current year.

The Council's administrative operations are funded annually by grants and donations. The Board of Directors reviews and approves the Council's annual budget, and monitors the financial results to ensure that expenditures are appropriate relative to the available funds.

10. COMPARATIVE FIGURES

Certain of the prior year comparatives have been restated to conform to the current year's presentation.

SCHEDULE 1

ALBERTA COUNCIL OF WOMEN'S SHELTERS
GRANT SCHEDULE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2011

	2011	2010
	\$	\$
Walking The Path Together – NCPC	484,013	330,408
Walking The Path Together-SCIF	359,433	87,693
United to End Violence	327,645	21,756
Operations/Council	175,963	103,997
Bursary Program – Children's Services (recovery)	52,981	(3,183)
Child Care	35,100	-
Stollery	33,961	-
Practical Frameworks for Change	30,101	149,267
Workplace Violence - HSAA	29,735	54,511
Elder Abuse	26,790	43,069
Taking a Stand	22,290	175
CEFV	21,472	-
Making Amends	19,718	-
UN Women – Canadian Network	11,490	-
Trend Analysis in Alberta shelters	10,000	-
National Crime Prevention Week	7,394	2,606
IODE – Crisis Training	5,800	4,500
CWF II – Canadian Network	5,000	-
PFVB- Education Program	4,971	87,121
International Network Women's	4,077	54,481
Global Secretariat	1,566	-
CWF Practical Frameworks	1,451	23,549
CWF – Canadian Network	930	-
Danger Assessment – CIF	60	21,347
Domestic Violence in Workplace	-	1,993
CWF – Second Stage	-	911
World Conference	(4,113)	-
	<u>1,667,828</u>	<u>984,201</u>

4. Valued Supporters

Alberta Children and Youth Services
 Alberta Department of Justice and Solicitor
 General
 Alberta Federation of Labour
 Alberta Health Services
 Alberta Culture and Community Spirit
 Alberta Seniors and Community Supports
 AI Terra Engineering
 AUPE Local 54
 Butler Family Foundation
 Canada Brokerlink
 Canadian Women's Foundation
 Donna Hammerlindl
 Downtown Business Association Edmonton
 Edmonton Eskimos
 Edmonton Community Foundation
 Enbridge
 Health Sciences Association of Alberta
 International Development Research Centre
 JR and Carol Shaw
 Law Show Committee, University of Alberta
 National Crime Prevention Centre
 Safe Communities Innovation Fund
 Original Joe's
 Patrick McDonald
 Professional Locksmith Association of
 Alberta
 Romanovsky and Associates
 Safe Communities Secretariat

Sherwood Park Toyota
 Status of Women Canada
 Sutton Place Hotel
 TELUS
 The Hotchkiss Foundation
 UNILEVER
 Union 52 Benevolent Society
 United Way
 Westwood Unitarian Church
 Wordsmith Associates

