



2024-2025 annual report

LOVE BC



Our annual report reflects activities from September 2024 to August 2025

We acknowledge with gratitude that we live, work, and create on the unceded territories of the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh Nations. Reconciliation is a guiding value in our work, opening each Board meeting with reflection, facts, current issues, and initiatives led by local Indigenous communities.

LOCAL INDIGENOUS VICTORIES 2024–2025

“Today, on behalf of the Government of Canada and all Canadians, we seek to begin to mend this injustice with three simple words: **We are sorry.**”

We acknowledge that you have been treated as “second-class First Nations” and strangers here on your own land in Canada.”

Canada issues apologies to Dakota-Lakota Nations - July 2024



Title Recognition

Haida Nation (April 2024)

BC formally recognized Haida Aboriginal title to Haida Gwaii and over 200 islands without requiring federal proof of title.

Cowichan Tribes (August 2025)

The BC Supreme Court recognized Aboriginal title to 800 acres in Richmond.

Settlements & Apologies

“**Cows and Plows**” agricultural claims for Indigenous were settled in Oct 2024, **delivering CAD 1.4 billion in compensation.**

Between April 2024 and January 2025, **41 treaty claims were resolved**, totalling CAD 3.49 billion.

Canada issued historic apologies and settlements to Dakota-Lakota Nations (July 2024), Manitoulin Island First Nations (October 2024), and Inuit families (February 2025, with CAD 4.5 million compensation).

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- **From 8 last year to 13 weekly Programs this year.**
- **3,085 youth engaged** in our programs and workshops.
- 88 returning youth weekly.
- **41 violence prevention workshops delivered** with a focus on anti-racism and self-defense workshops !
- Introduction of Programs in **6 Elementary schools**
- Piloted **Individual Bursaries** to 9 youth



Parsa, Grade 6
Elsie Roy
Elementary
School

Annual Impact	2023-2024	2024-2025	2025-2026 Projections
Youth reached through programs and workshops	1,175	3,085	3,400

“We like that it feels like a mini family inside of school”
Youth participant, Grade 7

Transformation happens one young person at a time and this year, it was amazing to witness kids who felt isolated, leave with their first friendships or meeting parents sharing the joy of seeing real change in their child, from dreading going to school to a complete turn around in just a few weeks.

This year, we expanded into more schools and delivered our highest number of prevention workshops, with many schools reaching out for anti-racism workshops. One middle school even booked us to address anti-racism with every single one of their grades 🙌

Looking ahead, we will pilot programs with even younger grades, introduce individual bursaries and support ages 16 to 25 through facilitation roles and intensive training to become employment ready.

Stay tuned and follow our adventures !

Akim
Executive Director



ABOUT LOVE BC

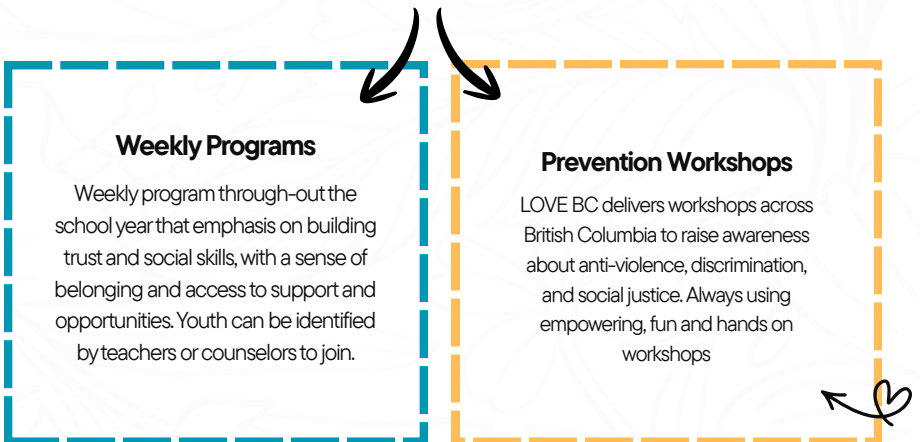
[Instagram](#) | [Website](#)

LOVE BC (Leave Out Violence BC) is a youth-driven organization with over **20 years of experience** supporting **underserved youth** in the Lower Mainland through **violence prevention, skill-building, and creative expression.**

Our mission, prevent the cycle of violence. Many young people face challenges early in life that, if unaddressed, can lead to isolation, declining mental health, and increased vulnerability to violence.



LOVE Greater than anything
LOVE BC works to prevent the cycle of violence by connecting with youth through weekly programs and workshops across the Lower Mainland.



OUR TEAM



Lyla Hunter
Co-Chair

Lyla Hunter first engaged with LOVE as a teenager and continues to advocate for youth. She's been involved for over **two decades with LOVE BC**.



Laura Froese
Co-Chair/Treasurer

Laura is an experienced **Chartered Professional Accountant** with expertise in account reconciliation, internal controls, auditing, tax, and financial accounting.



SPECIAL THANKS AND FAREWELL TO LAURA FOR 6 BEAUTIFUL YEARS AS A BOARD MEMBER ❤️



Caity Goerke
Secretary

Caity is a creative writer and **Practicing Lawyer** who provides oversight on organizational policies and governance to reflect equity, inclusion, and accountability.



Alex Chan
Director

Alex joined LOVE BC in 2022 and serves as **Manager of Stakeholder Relations** with the **Office of the Premier of British Columbia** leading cross-ministerial initiatives.



Martha Cabrera
Director

Martha brings over **20 years of experience as a youth worker** and currently works at the **Broadway Youth Resource Centre (BYRC)**.



Kaycee Bull
Director

Kaycee brings expertise in Health Equity Initiatives and is **Director of Community Development Collingwood Neighborhood House**.



Courtney Pankratz
Director

Courtney brings **15 years of experience in Health and Harm reduction** and currently works at **BC Mental Health and Substance Use Services**.



Kevin Ma
Director

Kevin is a **Finance Project Controller** at Arcadis, specialized in financial reporting, IFRS compliance, process optimization, and team leadership.

STAFF MEMBERS

Akim Giroux - Executive Director

Sophie Konrad - Lead Facilitator

Valerie Friedenberg - Outreach Facilitator

Hayley Lee - Outreach Facilitator

Jessica Aguirre - Facilitator

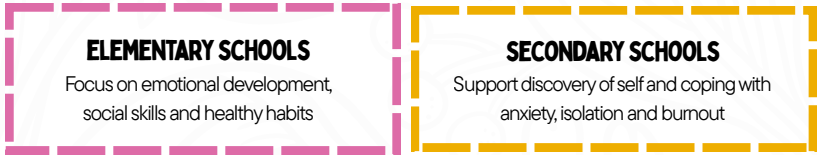
Amjed Elsayed - Facilitator

Soph Young - Facilitator



OUR WORK : WEEKLY PROGRAMS

LOVE BC holds weekly programs lasting the whole school year to provide youth with individualized support and opportunities for development. Through art, and craft, games, discussions and movement activities, our programs connect youth in small-group dynamics with other peers and caring adults, expose them to new activities, identify challenges and support positive development throughout the year.

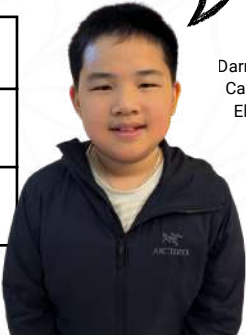


- **Arts:** Painting, Drawing, Poetry, Dance, Improv
- **Craft:** Sewing for kids, Clay, Origami, Making Slime, DIY Pink Shirt Day
- **Games:** Tower Building, Scavenger Hunt, Hangman, Kahoot, Trivia, Musical chairs
- **Movement Activities:** Breathing, Yoga for kids, Self-defense
- **Topics:** Boundaries, Understanding Emotions, Consent, Inclusion
- **Guest speakers:** Comic Artists, Improv School, Drum circles, Pet Therapy
- **Group outings:** Ice skating, Festival, Movies
- **Individual Bursaries** for extracurricular activities NEW

In 2024-2025: We sponsored 9 students in 8 week programs for Crochet, MMA, KPOP Dancing, Intro to professional Writing, Improv classes, Arts Umbrella Summer Program



Darren, Grade 7
Captain Cook
Elementary
School



Program Metric	2023-2024	2024-2025
Youth participating weekly	52	88
Number of weekly programs	6	13

OUR IMPACT

In 2024-2025, we ran **13 weekly programs** with **237 different youth stepping in and out** and **88 returning every week**. Out of those 237 youth:

- 66% were in Elementary Schools
- 26% were in Grades 8 to 9
- 8% were in Grades 10 to 12

Early prevention is at the heart of LOVE BC's work. We know that the earlier youth are provided with supportive environments, positive role models, and opportunities for self-expression, the more resilient they become in navigating challenges such as bullying, discrimination, and social isolation.

“LOVE BC helped me make my first real friends at school.”

Youth participant, Grade 6

65% of the youth we serve identify as Black, Indigenous, or People of Colour
16% are newcomers, primarily from Hispanic and Middle Eastern countries.
In secondary schools, **18% identified as 2SLGBTQI+**.

- **87% reported improvements in social skills**, and emotional regulation.
- **78% said they felt more included** than they usually do at school.
- **81% reported trying something new** and feeling brave doing it.
- **91% felt more connected to peers**, less isolated and made new friends.
- **32% received individual support** on a challenge they were facing.



**LOVE BC MEANS
FAMILY AND
FREE PIZZA !!!**



Jenny and Jasmine, Grade 8 and 9,
King George Secondary School

OUR WORK: PREVENTION WORKSHOPS

Workshops are held in schools, alternate schools, community centers, organizations, custody centers or other community spaces and aim to raise awareness on topics such as self-development, violence prevention, discrimination and social justice.

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

- Healthy Relationships
- Consent and Boundaries
- Public speaking
- Cook and Learn
- Slime Making: Coping with Emotions

SOCIAL JUSTICE AND PREVENTION

- 101 Anti-Oppression and Inclusion
- 101 Anti-Racism
- Anti-bullying and anti-violence
- Online safety for Girls
- Self defense

Program Metric	2023-2024	2024-2025
Violence Prevention Workshops	26	41
Youth Reached	353	855



Self-defense class at Waverley Elementary School

Partners we worked with this year

Healthy Relationships: PCRS, Mount Pleasant NH, ISS of BC, Tupper Alternate Program, Parkgate Society

Public speaking: Equitas Youth Leaders

Cook and Learn: Watari Counseling

Slime Making: Coping with Emotions: Kiwassa, Templeton Sunrise & Strategies Alternate Program, Kits NH, Templeton Grades 9-10, Milieu South Fraser Youth Center

101 Anti-Oppression and Inclusion: Archway Abbotsford

101 Anti-Racism: Carson Graham Secondary school (3 blocks), Parkgate Society, A.D. Rundle Middle School Chilliwack (3 day intervention for all grades 6, 7 and 8), EVEC Alternate School

Anti-bullying and anti-violence: Collingwood NH, Redfox, MPNH, Kiwassa NH

Online safety for Girls: Redfox Youth Forum

Self defense: Parkgate Society, Covenant House, BYRC, VSB Student-led conference, Kits NH.

STRATEGIC PLAN 2025-2028

Priority 1

LEADING AN INCLUSIVE AND SUSTAINABLE ORGANIZATION

- > **BE AT THE FOREFRONT OF VIOLENCE PREVENTION PRACTICES**
 - Engage in sector research and training
- > **DEEPEN IMPACT OF PROGRAMS**
 - Develop a program framework reflecting increased wellbeing and underserved youth
 - Increase youth enrolment by 20% annually

> **DIVERSE AND SKILLED REPRESENTATION**

- 85% of leadership being from equity-seeking groups
- Reviewed processes and policies
- Training on governance, leadership and reconciliation and build reconciliation strategy

> **BECOME AN EMPLOYER OF CHOICE**

- Align staff wages with Metro Vancouver's Living Wage
- Inclusive workplace with staff satisfaction rate

Priority 2

STRENGTHENING IMPACTFUL PROGRAMS

Priority 3

EXPANDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH AND RAISING AWARENESS ON VIOLENCE

> **SUPPORT ACCESS TO MORE OPPORTUNITIES**

- Secure partnerships with businesses and service providers to extend opportunities for youth
- Sponsor and refer 20% of our youth into external programs (arts, sports, education, support)

> **EXPAND OUR REACH ON VIOLENCE AWARENESS**

- Double the number of Violence Prevention Workshops offered and identify 3 underserved communities

> **DIVERSIFY REVENUE SOURCES**

- Secure 2 new funding partnerships and 1 multi-year funding
- Increase donations and earned income by 20% annually

> **BUILD FINANCIAL RESILIENCE**

- Increase and secure contingency reserves that cover over 6 months of operating costs

Priority 4

FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY

FINANCES

\$

**\$0.88 of every \$1
goes directly into youth
programs**

**LEAVE OUT VIOLENCE (LOVE) SOCIETY BC
STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2025**

	2025	2024
REVENUE		
Government grants <i>(Note 5)</i>	\$ 179,728	\$ 118,580
Public foundations <i>(Note 5)</i>	83,607	27,556
Services to other youth organizations and sundry revenue	8,864	4,070
Donation by individuals	6,036	4,884
Business corporations	-	10,097
Fundraising events	-	66
	278,235	165,859
EXPENSES		
Program expenses <i>(Schedule 1)</i>	209,425	193,830
Administrative Expenses <i>(Schedule 2)</i>	29,392	17,100
	238,817	210,939
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES FOR THE YEAR	\$ 39,418	\$ (45,080)

Audited by **mannings
elliott**



Picture at Lord Roberts Elementary, Grades 6 and 7

DONORS AND SUPPORT

LOVE BC is deeply grateful for the incredible support of our donors, partners, and volunteers. Your generosity fuels our growth and enables us to support more and with deeper care, underserved youth across BC.

Funders



Individual Supporters

LOVE BC is deeply grateful to the individuals who support our work and help make our programs possible.

We would like to acknowledge the following supporters for their generosity this year: Alex Chan, Alexander Taylor, Anne Binning, Anonymous, Cat Hart, Sean Konrad, Tracy Rawa, June Liu, Marjorie Kolbe, Erin Burchett, Yukiko Iikura, Glen Sanford, Chi Cheng Wat, Anonymous.

Your commitment to our mission ensures that more youth have access to safe, inclusive, and empowering spaces. Thank you for standing with us.



Maria, Grade 8,
King George
Secondary School



Key Partners



