

A New Day for CHCs in British Columbia

Looking back, looking ahead

Message from the BCACHC Board

Hello BCACHC Members,

This has been an unprecedented year for all of us as we grapple with COVID and the myriad ways it has impacted our lives. As we look back to the year we have had and ahead at the year before us, we want to take a moment to thank all of you for the awe-inspiring work you continue to engage in as you support the health and well-being of your communities.

We are proud of the success we have witnessed within our organization and across our membership, and we can't wait to keep up the momentum despite these trying circumstances. The Board would also like to acknowledge, that while BCACHC has had a number of successes, many of our members continue to struggle with a lack of core funding and the Association is committed to advocating for increased support for all our members in the years ahead.



The team at RISE CHC, a newly-funded organization in Vancouver

Rachel Malena-Chan,
Communications Strategist

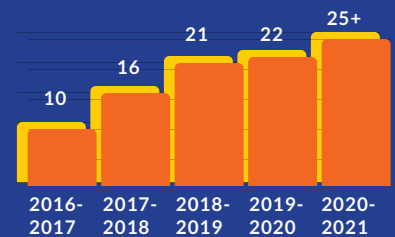
Grey Showler,
Program Developer

Valerie St. John,
Executive Director



Highlights

MEMBERSHIP GROWTH



ADVOCACY WINS

- ✓ Funding and resources for CHCs
- ✓ Recognition of the model
- ✓ Partnership table opportunities

STRONG TEAM



A word from our new ED

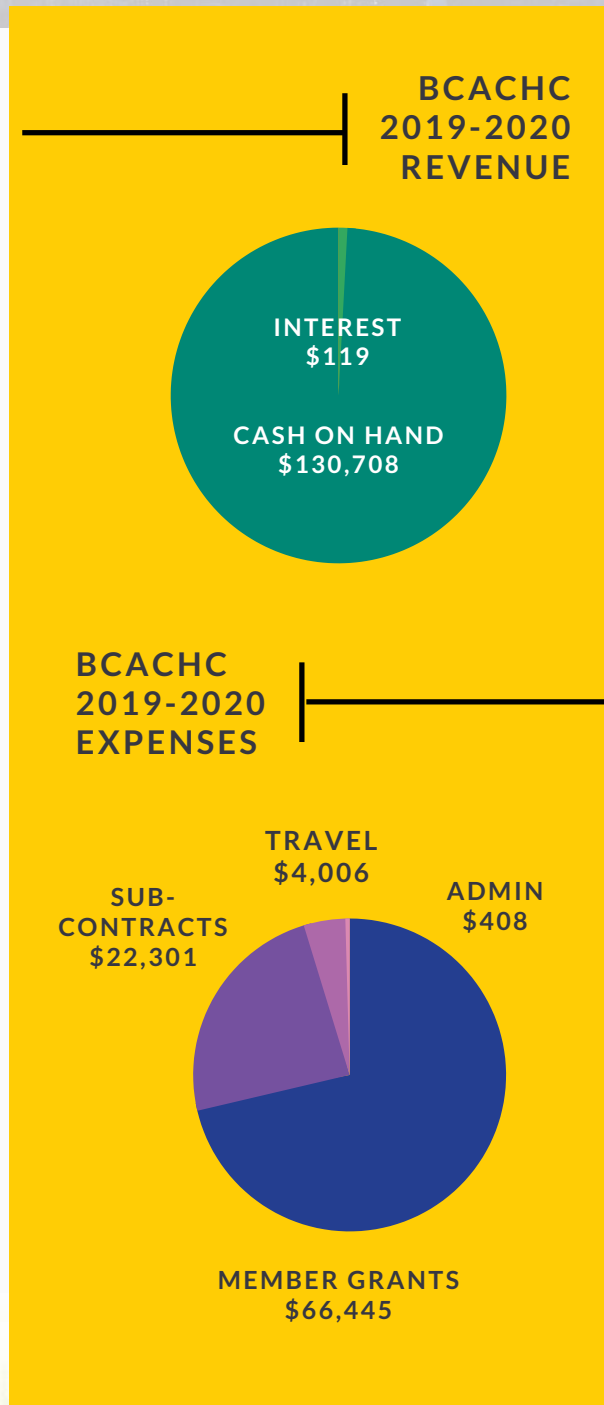
Hello BCACHC Members! I am honoured to accept the role as the first Executive Director at BCACHC and look forward to learning and supporting the Association as it continues to strengthen the role it plays working with its member Centres.

Much has been done, and there is still much to do to support current CHCs operating around the province and to assist with the development of new CHCs in underserved areas of B.C. I hope to have an opportunity to speak with all members soon as I orient to my new role and set priorities for the future. - Valerie St. John

Financial update

BCACHC had many achievements during the 2019 - 2020 year and are well positioned financially going into the 2020 - 2021 year. Revenue from bank interest was \$119 and we started the year with a cash balance of \$130,708. BCACHC expenses included a grant of \$66,445 as per the Ministry of Health funding agreement and \$26,715 spent on hiring a communications consultant and delivering on BCAHCH work including building partnerships, engaging our membership, submitting funding proposals, and working together to build strength in our provincial organization to support CHC's in BC. Moving forward, the BCACHC Board has prioritized membership needs, and increased our capacity to build effective relationships and partnerships at the provincial, regional and local level. We are looking forward to further supporting CHC's in BC to deliver excellence in delivering services.

I would like to thank the BCACHC Board of Directors for their engagement, commitment and work towards ensuring the best for CHC's in BC. I would also like to thank all of our BCACHC members for delivering grassroots health care services for your community's. Lastly, I would like to recognize Rachel Malena-Chan for her communications expertise, and ongoing support with BCACHC. Warm regards! - Christine Matuschewski, BCACHC Treasurer



Operational update

Earlier this year, we were successful in our proposal for funding from the Ministry of Health in the amount of \$1 million. Approximately \$300,000 will support staffing and program development with the remaining funds to be disbursed as grants to our members.

We've also made a number of changes to the organization, including growth of the core team of contracted staff and the transition to a governance board from an operational board. The addition of contracted staff will vastly increase BCACHC's ability to support our members, with a number of new program supports being developed over the next year.

We're also in the midst of a new round of strategic planning, and we look forward to hearing from members at the AGM, through surveys, and through conversation, about how the organization can better serve its membership.

Upcoming funding opportunities



As part of their commitment to increasing support for CHCs, the provincial government awarded BCACHC \$1 million, and this year we have \$700,000 to allocate in grants to our members.

We are initiating a new round of grant applications for funding up to \$25,000 to support CHC operations, business development, clinical services, and pandemic response.

Look for the application form in your inbox and apply by August 31st!

BC RECOVERY PLAN ADVOCACY

We've submitted a proposal for the BC Recovery Plan including:

-  Provision of sustainable funding and supports for the current CHCs.
-  Targeted funding for communities developing and implementing CHCs in underserved areas of the province.

The full letter has been emailed out to members along with the summer newsletter, and if you'd like an additional copy, please email board@bcachc.org.

Get Involved

Participate in our member survey this Fall and tell us how we can advance your work.

Share your stories with us!

 [@bcachc](https://twitter.com/bcachc)

 bcachc.org



Membership update

Over the past year, BCACHC has added three new members, and many of our members have seen growth within their organization. Welcome to RISE CHC (Vancouver), South Shuswap Health Services (Interior BC), and Sayward Community Health Centre (North Vancouver Island).

In 2018-2019, BCACHC was pleased received \$2.13 million, which supported members to stabilize and grow their Community Health Centres. Grant recipients were able to support the health of their communities through the sustainment and expansion of diverse programs like:

- a health outreach worker and physiotherapist at the Cool Aid CHC in Victoria,
- chronic disease management and diabetes care at Pender Harbour CHC,
- support for indigenous clients at REACH CHC in Vancouver,
- Nurse Practitioner relief for Galiano CHC,
- increased RN support for perinatal care at Community First Health Co-op in Nelson,
- and cross cultural brokers for newcomers at Umbrella Multicultural Co-op in New Westminister.



The diversity of programming supported through BCACHC funding demonstrates the value of community-based services which address the barriers to health and wellness of vulnerable British Columbians. We've also deepened our understanding of the government's model of funding CHCs and we're refining our advocacy strategy for global funding for our unique model of care.

"Having support and recognition for our cross cultural health brokers through this stabilizing funding has been instrumental to support our model of health equity for immigrants and refugees.

We know that building a deeper understanding of the CHC model is key if organizations (like ours) are going to grow and develop unique community responses. BCACHC is helping to move the dial and bridge the knowledge gap."

- Esther Hsieh, ED at Umbrella Multicultural Health Co-op



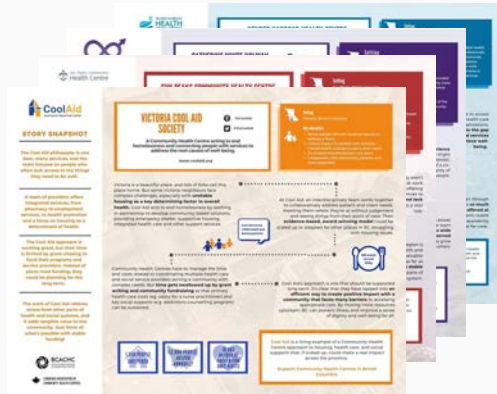
The team at Umbrella Multicultural Health Co-op in New Westminister, Vancouver



Communications update

Over the past year, we've been working to develop new foundations for our social media presence, website, and brand, in addition to producing quarterly newsletters, member profiles, and training tools for members.

Through videos, tool-kits, and strategic support, BCACHC has built up the communications capacity of our members, and we've shared CHC stories through blogs, videos, social media graphics, and town-hall meetings.



In the year ahead, we'll build on these foundations, strengthening our brand, updating our messaging, and creating a dynamic website packed with useful resources, engaging stories, and additional tools for members.

WHAT'S NEW FOR THE CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTRES?

- ✓ Focus on COVID-19 and communication about how the CHC model can be leveraged to meet emerging needs
- ✓ Aligning how we talk about the CHC model and clarifying the principles and processes that make it unique
- ✓ Sharing the BCACHC experience with other provinces to inspire similar progress

In closing

I would like to thank everyone for their support over the past four years that I have been President of BCACHC. It has been an honour to represent such wonderful people and communities, and to get to know so many of you. In 2016, I was an RN at theCool Aid CHC when my manager asked me to attend a meeting organized by the Canadian Association of CHCs to discuss starting a BC association.

I could never have imagined that this is where we would end up – and yet we have so far to go. Our first Board meeting was with our five founding members and here we are a few short years later with over 25 members and growing. I would like to extend a special thank you to past board members Rick MacDonald, Colleen Fuller, Lonnie Facchina, and Geoff Trafford for their countless hours of work and support for the organization, and to our current board for their ongoing dedication. I look forward to working with all our members in the future in my new capacity at BCACHC. Thank you.

- Grey Showler, Past BCACHC President