

AMSSA BOARD 2010–2011

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A Special Thank You

AMSSA would like to acknowledge the commitment and support of the following funders and donors who have made significant financial contributions throughout the past year. This support has enabled AMSSA to maintain quality service and better serve its members.

FUNDERS 2010–11

Citizenship and Immigration Canada
Public Health Agency of Canada
BC Ministry of Advanced Education and Labour Market Development
Immigration and Welcome BC Branch
Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General
Metropolis BC
United Way of the Lower Mainland
Vancouver Foundation
Centre for Sustainability
Human Resources and Skills Development Canada

DONORS

Individual
Jill Atkey
Hilma LaBelle
Kashmir Besla
Mary Kean
Farah Kotadia
Gary Snider
Carol Wutzke
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Organizations
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2010–2011 ANNUAL REPORT

205–2929 Commercial Dr
Vancouver, BC V5N 4C8
604 718-2780

amssa@amssa.org www.amssa.org

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

This past year was a time of change for many of our members. Many organizations were focused on submitting Request for Proposals (RFPs) for settlement, English language instruction and employment programs.

On the whole, Canadians continue to be very positive about immigrant settlement and integration, multiculturalism, welcoming communities, and inter-cultural health accessibility. AMSSA's community initiatives are showing a positive impact as we engage with government and academia to develop more valid outcome evaluation tools and approaches for the work we do.

However, ongoing economic challenges are affecting perceptions about the different types of immigration, even while our aging demographic is accelerating us into a "grey tsunami". A heightened political focus on "human smuggling" and "queue-jumping" are confusing to the general public. Canadians are asking: who are the "beneficial" immigrants, and who are the "genuine" refugees?

With funding cuts certain in coming years, a national dialogue is developing about which measures and which types of service providers are best suited to accelerate the social and economic integration of newcomers. AMSSA strongly believes in the effectiveness and value-for-dollar of our community-based not-for-profit member agencies, and we will continue to advocate for support of our members, as the value they provide to the economy, the society, and to the local communities becomes better understood.

On a personal note, this will be my last year with AMSSA and I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Board, the staff and the Executive Director for their tireless efforts in moving the agency forward. Your contributions have not gone un-recognized.

Farah Kotadia, AMSSA Board President



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

In October 2010, AMSSA embarked on a lengthy re-branding process which included consultation with our Members, Board and Staff. Our new logo moves away from our legal name, Affiliation of Multicultural Societies and Service Agencies of BC, in favour of the much simpler acronym, AMSSA. The acronym will be supported by our new tagline, "Strengthening Diversity in BC," which describes what we do: **STRENGTHEN**; and how we do it: by **COLLABORATING**.

We also re-developed the AMSSA web-site, www.amssa.org, to reflect the new brand, improve navigation and streamline the research data bases. Thanks to South Okanagan Immigrant and Community Services for the loan of their logo for the past thirty-four years.

In consultation with the sector, the Settlement Net website was upgraded and 12 Settlement Net Orientations held with service providers and Immigrant Integration branch staff.

AMSSA's Safe Harbour: *Respect for All* program continues to grow, with 850 certified Safe Harbour locations active in 26 communities across BC. We are continuing to build corporate relations and market the program through social and mainstream media. Maywood Community School was awarded the 2nd annual Safe Harbour: *Respect for All* Champion's Award at our Breakfast held last November.

The quarterly AMSSA's *Newcomer Children Information Exchange* (ANCIE) Bulletins focused on: English Language Learners, Health and Wellness of Newcomer Children, Refugee Children and Family Dynamics.

AMSSA delivered three research e-symposia: AMSSA Research Connections (ARC) E-Symposium (Temporary Foreign Workers in BC); Diabetes's and BC Multiethnic Communities Symposium; Newcomer Children Provincial E-Symposium (Cultural Competencies: Supporting Newcomer Children)

Diversity Health Fairs have proven to be very popular with our members and the communities they serve. They were enthusiastically received in Abbotsford, Kelowna, Nanaimo, Prince George, Vernon, Maple Ridge, Victoria and Vancouver.

This year we produced one edition of *Cultures West: BC's Resilient Refugees: The Challenges Don't End at the Border*.

A warm welcome to new members Shuswap Settlement Services Society, Supporting Women's Alternatives Network Society (S.W.A.N.) and South Island Dispute Resolution Centre Society.

Lynn Moran, Executive Director

FINANCIAL REPORT

REVENUES	2011	2010
Government Grants	1,248,142	1,246,988
Foundation Grants	111,723	58,975
Membership Fees	10,900	10,360
Fundraising & Donations	60,589	66,671
Gaming	0	855
Cost Recoveries	0	21,658
Other	2,594	1,245
	1,433,948	1,406,752

EXPENDITURES	2011	2010
Salaries & Benefits	543,989	501,233
Office Expenses	51,267	35,738
Travel & Meeting	151,964	136,150
Fundraising	26,717	30,399
Telecommunication	15,159	14,718
Rent	58,991	56,415
Contracts	488,891	580,858
Programs	91,263	22,918
	1,428,241	1,378,429

SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) 5,707 28,323

