

AMSSA BOARD 2011–2012

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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 provide its members with quality service.

FUNDERS 2011 –12

Citizenship and Immigration Canada
Public Health Agency of Canada
Ministry of Jobs tourism and Innovation-WelcomeBC
Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General
United Way of the Lower Mainland
Vancouver Coastal Health

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2011–2012 ANNUAL REPORT

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

As AMSSA celebrates its 35th Anniversary, it is a good time to reflect on our growth, resiliency and the many accomplishments of our member agencies. The year ahead could be one of the most challenging to our sector in over a decade. For British Columbia's settlement service providers, the future holds a return to funding directly from the Federal government, administered through a new CIC Western Regional Office. Eligible programs, procurement processes, levels of funding, reporting mechanisms are all likely to look different by 2014.

Since 1999, the Government of British Columbia has, with transferred federal funding, developed immigrant settlement and integration programs that are delivered by AMSSA member agencies and other contract holders throughout BC. Our members have been engaged in delivering innovative programs and building more welcoming and inclusive BC communities.

When the Federal department of Citizenship and Immigration (CIC) unexpectedly announced the "repatriation" of the immigrant service annex of the Canada-BC Agreement on Immigration by April 2014, the Immigrant Integration Coordinating Committee (IICC) began to focus on a positive transition. It must honour and build upon BC's legacy of service excellence, and support BC's long-standing role in providing services to immigrants. These services are critical as the importance of immigration becomes increasingly clear to the future of the province.

Since the repatriation announcement, we have heard of cuts to the Welcoming Communities Initiative, the closing of the Going to Canada Immigration Portal Initiative, the elimination of funding for the Welcoming Communities Initiative (WCI) for Anti-racism, cuts to the Interim Federal Health program (IFHP), the reduction of the number of Government Assisted Refugees (GARs) to be resettled in a year by 1000 and reserving up to 1000 of the freed resettlement space to the private sponsorship community. All unexpected announcements. There is much uncertainty.

One thing AMSSA members can be sure of in this continuing whirlwind of change is that AMSSA is here, working hard, always ready to listen to our members and lead and support the sector through whatever circumstances we will face together.

Carol Wutzke, AMSSA Board President

“Our members have been engaged in delivering innovative programs and building more welcoming and inclusive BC communities.”

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

This year AMSSA celebrates our 35th anniversary. We have come a long way from a few members in 1977 to 75 member organizations to-day. We have not only grown in numbers but in our ability to support our members and build capacity in the sector.

AMSSA was the recipient of the 2011 provincial Nesika Award, recognizing Safe Harbour: Respect for All. Safe Harbour provides an annual Train-the Trainer Workshop on intercultural capacity building to help its 18 community organizers better serve their communities.

With Cancer Prevention and Early Detection as the theme, ten Diversity Health Fairs took place in Nanaimo, Campbell River, Victoria, Prince George, Terrace, Vernon, Kelowna, Abbotsford and Surrey this year. Over 3500 people attended the Fair in Vancouver.

PSAs developed by AMSSA to promote access to culturally and linguistically appropriate diabetes resources for multiethnic communities were aired by eight radio stations in BC, as well as Radio-Canada International.

Two editions of Cultures West, Immigrant and Refugee Seniors and Newcomer Children & Youth were broadly distributed and enthusiastically received.

ANCIE e-bulletins focused on Gender Roles, International Students and Family Dynamics. A Compendium of Newcomer's Children's Services in BC, listing service providers, programs and service models, was published. In collaboration with First Call, AMSSA contributed information on immigrant children to the BC Poverty Report Card. With a MITACS grant, a research paper entitled: 'Promising Practices of Early Childhood Education: Principles and Practices for Immigrant and Refugee Children in British Columbia' was completed.

Hundreds of stakeholders participated in three, AMSSA organized, e-symposia: Including First Nations and Aboriginal Content and Relationship-Building in Immigrant Settlement Services; The Guided Pathways process; and Finding and Using Online Information in Immigrant Settlement. The e-symposia are available at www.amssa.org

Over 200 front-line settlement workers, SWIS workers, program directors and executive directors attended three, AMSSA produced, themed events: Invisible Chains: Canada's Underground World of Human Trafficking; Immigrant and Refugee Children and Youth; and Volunteerism and Community Connections.

Welcome to new AMSSA members: Family Services of the North Shore, Umoja Operation Compassion Society, Fort St. John Literacy Society.

Lynn Moran, Executive Director

FINANCIAL REPORT

REVENUES	2012	2011
Government Grants	1,301,670	1,248,142
Foundation Grants	75,784	111,723
Membership Fees	10,900	10,900
Fundraising & Donations	63,797	60,589
Gaming	53,143	0
Other	2,163	2,594
	1,507,457	1,433,948

EXPENDITURES	2012	2011
Salaries & Benefits	552,389	543,989
Office Expenses	60,040	51,267
Travel & Meeting	236,925	151,964
Fundraising	26,605	26,717
Telecommunication	16,805	15,159
Rent	56,759	58,991
Contracts	500,376	488,891
Programs	43,953	91,263
	1,493,852	1,428,241

SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	2012	2011
	13,605	5,707

