

## A MESSAGE FROM LANA WELLS, PRESIDENT



This past year was one of transition as we moved from our former structure (with a board of 37) to a smaller, representative board of both shelter staff and their board volunteers. We now have a strategic plan in place, which sees ACWS moving forward with six key goals. These goals are: 1) to be a responsive, well-resourced and proactive organization, 2) to implement a user-friendly shelter based information system, 3) to establish client centred core services for shelters province wide, 4) to be recognized as a vehicle for social change, 5) to obtain stable, standardized province wide core funding for shelters, and 6) to ensure stable core funding for ACWS.

I am happy to announce that ACWS has been successful implementing many of these goals. In the past year we obtained funds for the implementation of a shelter database system, which will help us mobilize the community on family violence issues. This is an exciting initiative because we will be better at gathering and monitoring our statistics, trends and issues thus providing better information to the public, government and members. In addition, Status of Women has provided us with funding to look at shelter salary issues and to update the ACWS Compendium of Service, assisting us in identifying core shelter services.

ACWS is working hard to be recognized as a vehicle for social change and are often asked by government for input on key issues relating to family violence. In the past year, we have been very busy creating position papers, meeting with government, and providing input into legislation. We have been particularly active in four major areas:

1. Providing input to the federal government's proposed changes to the Divorce Act and its impact on women and children;
2. Assisting and meeting with the province's Low Income Review Committee and Ministry to identify the barriers women face due to the province's meagre income support program Supports for Independence (SFI) that has remained static since 1993;
3. Providing input and guiding the Minister of Child and Family Service's Women's Shelter Review;
4. Designing and articulating our position with respect to the Child Welfare Act to ensure that the of children who witness violence are met.

ACWS also began working on a memorandum of understanding with the Province and the RCMP to ensure there is a consistent response to family violence across the province. The shelters will assist us in monitoring the implementation of this memorandum and we will be reporting back next year on the changes of services to woman and children. I believe the merging of the executive directors and Board members on the Council has enriched ACWS' work. A special thanks to all of our members for their dedication and support in implementing the changes to the Council; and to the first Board members of our revamped structure for pioneering the way.

It is hard to believe that such a small organization (with a budget of less than \$200,000) can have such an impact in the province. The success of ACWS is directly related to our committed volunteers and our amazing staff, Jan and Flavia whose commitment, tenacity and ability to work under pressure has facilitated the organization to succeed beyond all expectations. A sincere thanks to the staff and volunteers for making ACWS a great organization to work with.

# OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Lana Wells  
Lise Blanchette  
Pat Carter  
Pat Garrett

Brenda Strafford Centre  
YWCA Sheriff King Home  
A Safe Place  
Wings of Providence

President  
Vice-President  
Treasurer  
Secretary

Gerry Carter  
Nadia Clarke  
Joie Dery  
Mike Dickinson  
Karen Hoover  
Kathy Sheppard

Phoenix Safe House  
Peace River Regional Women's Shelter  
Dr. Margaret Savage Crisis Centre  
Hope Haven Society  
YWCA Harbour House  
Odyssey House



Front Row L to R: Kathy Sheppard, Sharon Christie, Lana Wells  
Second Row L to R: Nadia Clarke, Joie Dery, Pat Carter, Karen Hoover, Lise Blanchette, Mike Dickinson

# OUR MEMBER SHELTERS

<b>A Safe Place</b>	Sherwood Park, Alberta
<b>Awo Taan Native Women's Shelter Society</b>	Calgary, Alberta
<b>Bigstone Cree Nation Women's Emergency Shelter</b>	Desmarais, Alberta
<b>Brenda Strafford Centre</b>	Calgary, Alberta
<b>Brigantia Place</b>	Camrose, Alberta
<b>Brooks &amp; District Women's Safe Shelter Society</b>	Brooks, Alberta
<b>Calgary Women's Emergency Shelter</b>	Calgary, Alberta
<b>Central Alberta Women's Emergency Shelter</b>	Red Deer, Alberta
<b>Columbus House of Hope</b>	St. Paul, Alberta
<b>Crossroads Resource Centre</b>	Fairview, Alberta
<b>Discovery House</b>	Calgary, Alberta
<b>Dr. Margaret Savage Crisis Centre</b>	Cold Lake, Alberta
<b>Eagle Women's Emergency Shelter</b>	Black Diamond, Alberta
<b>Edmonton Senior Safe Housing.</b>	Edmonton, Alberta
<b>Edmonton Women's Shelter Ltd.</b>	Edmonton, Alberta
<b>Ermineskin Women's Shelter</b>	Hobbema, Alberta
<b>Hope Haven Society</b>	Lac La Biche, Alberta
<b>Kerby Centre</b>	Calgary, Alberta
<b>La Salle Residence</b>	Edmonton, Alberta
<b>Lloydminster Interval Home</b>	Lloydminster, Alberta
<b>Lurana Shelter</b>	Edmonton, Alberta
<b>Mikisew Cree First Nation - Paspew House</b>	Fort Chipewan, Alberta
<b>Odyssey House</b>	Grande Prairie, Alberta
<b>Peace River Regional Women's Shelter</b>	Peace River, Alberta
<b>Phoenix Safe House</b>	Medicine Hat, Alberta
<b>Pincher Creek Women's Emergency Shelter</b>	Pincher Creek, Alberta
<b>Safe Home, A Project of Northwest Alberta Resource Society</b>	High Level, Alberta
<b>Sonshine Community Services</b>	Calgary, Alberta
<b>Sucker Creek Women's Emergency Shelter</b>	Sucker Creek, Alberta
<b>Taber &amp; District Family Crisis Intervention Society</b>	Taber, Alberta
<b>Unity House</b>	Fort McMurray, Alberta
<b>Wellspring Family Resource &amp; Crisis Centre</b>	Whitcourt, Alberta
<b>Wheatland Community Crisis Society</b>	Strathmore, Alberta
<b>Wings of Providence</b>	Edmonton, Alberta
<b>Yellowhead Emergency Shelter</b>	Hinton, Alberta
<b>Youville Women's Residence</b>	Calgary, Alberta
<b>YWCA Harbour House</b>	Lethbridge, Alberta
<b>YWCA Family Support Centre &amp; Sheriff King Home</b>	Calgary, Alberta

## ASSOCIATE MEMBER

<b>Mountain Rose Women's Shelter Association</b>	Rocky Mountain House, AB
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# OUR COMMITTEES

(Annual Committee Reports available upon request)

## ABORIGINAL ISSUES COMMITTEE

Brenda Brochu  
Ermine Cummings  
Janet Gladue  
Annette Lee  
Solomon Yellowknee

Diana Broekaert  
Heike DeGraff  
Tammy Grove  
Kathy Sheppard

Jill Chesley  
Sandra Ermineskin  
Marlene Iverson  
Pat Vargas

## BOARD GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

Pat Carter  
Sister Lucinda May Patterson

Pat Garrett

Jean Langdon

## EDUCATION & TRAINING COMMITTEE

Brenda Bruchal  
Sylvia Fleury  
Pat Kulscar  
Kathy Sheppard

Nadia Clarke  
Karen Hoover  
Karen Pease  
Pat Vargas

Sandra Danco  
Kate Hynes  
Lori Phillips

## SHELTER PROGRAMS COMMITTEE

Moriah Boyd  
Nadia Clarke  
Pat Garrett  
Doreen McCaw

Gerry Carter  
Sandra Danco  
Carolyn Goard  
Kathleen Nakagawa

Kristine Cassie  
Joie Dery  
Marj Luger  
Pat Vargas

## SOCIAL ISSUES COMMITTEE

Lise Blanchette  
Ermine Cummings  
Carolyn Goard  
Kathy Sheppard

Michelle Briegel-Kranjcevic  
Sandra Danco  
Shari Narine  
Pat Vargas

Kristine Cassie  
Heike DeGraff  
Lori Phillips

## CHILD WELFARE ACT REVIEW AD HOC COMMITTEE

Michelle Briegel-Kranjcevic  
Kristine Cassie  
Heike DeGraff  
Shari Narine

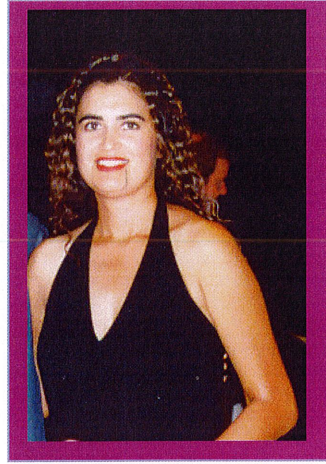
Brenda Brochu  
Ermine Cummings  
Jeannie Dumont  
Pat Vargas

Gerry Carter  
Sandra Danco  
Jean Dunbar

## OUR STAFF



**Jan Reimer**  
Provincial Coordinator



**Flavia Robles**  
Special Projects & Office Manager

## OUR VOLUNTEERS

Henry Baldt  
Arlene Chapman  
Anita Cochran  
Peggy Dick  
Carla Hanf  
Catherine Hedlin  
Mike Jacobs  
RoseMarie McCarthy  
Pilar Robles  
Rob Squire

Art Beliveau  
Linda Churchill  
Jim Cregan  
Dora Francis  
Corey Hanf  
Kevin Hendricks  
Connie McBride  
Myrna Peets  
Darlene Saunders  
Mary Anne Warren

Front Row: Dora Francis  
Second Row L to R:  
Mike Jacobs, Arlene Chapman,  
Carla Hanf, Corey Hanf



# OUR FUNDERS

## **STATUS OF WOMEN CANADA**

Supported ACWS to continue our work

## **OFFICE FOR THE PREVENTION OF FAMILY VIOLENCE**

Supported ACWS to continue our work in partnership with OPFV

## **MUTTART FOUNDATION**

Supported ACWS Restructuring Process and Provincial Voices for Action & Change Project

## **IMPERIAL ORDER OF THE DAUGHTERS OF THE EMPIRE**

Sponsor for IODE Child Support Worker's Workshop

## **EDMONTON COMMUNITY FOUNDATION**

Supported Crisis Intervention Worker's Workshop

## **ALBERTA HUMAN RIGHTS AND CITIZENSHIP COMMISSION**

Supported our Aboriginal "Blankets, Bibles & Beads" Project

**THANK YOU.**