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Our Strategic Framework and Goals

The SCY vision is a British Columbia where all children and youth thrive. We achieve our vision through these measurable goals:

1. Improve the understanding and implementation of child and youth rights
   - Sharing, networking, influencing
     - Chairing round tables, presenting at conferences, providing workshops, and developing new publications and distributing to strategic target audiences

2. Protect the rights of children and youth in vulnerable contexts
   - Leading the Child and Youth Legal Centre
     - Providing legal support to children and youth, leading offsite clinics, building a provincial roster, continuously improving practice and policy, and providing legal rights education

3. Advance the planning and development of child and youth friendly communities
   - Education in the community
     - Trainings, presentations and consultations with key groups such as city department staff, post secondary students, and teachers

4. Grow opportunities for children and youth to be heard and included
   - Increase the youth voice throughout our work
     - Seek youth voice for our committees and Board, including children and youth participation in project work from the planning stages through to implementation

Strategy

We are BC’s experts in child and youth rights. Our strategy is to be the best available resource for supporting children and youth in their legal rights, and for supporting, educating and leading the adult duty bearers whose responsibility it is to promote the well-being of our province’s children and youth.
Board Members

- Nina Purewal, Chair
- Ashley Howard, Vice Chair
- Erin Hood, Treasurer
- Jasleen Grewal, Secretary

Honourary Officers

- Joe Rosen
- Tom Berger
- Frances Grunberg
- Flora McLeod (deceased)
- Basil Robinson (deceased)

Team

- Stephanie Howell, Executive Director
- Ildiko Kovacs, Child and Youth Friendly Communities Coordinator
- Suzette Narbonne, Child and Youth Lawyer
- Donna Maser, Child and Youth Lawyer
- Alicia Hubbard, Child and Youth Lawyer

Directors

- Jennifer Strate
- Jennifer Stewart
- Jessica Tran
- Carrie Anne Vanderhoop
- Jacqueline Norris

Officers

- Susan Leah, Legal Assistant
- Dinali de Fonseka, Office Administrator
- Mandy Thayil, Program Manager
- Naomi Bob, Outreach and Workshop Creator
In 2018, the Board and staff once again continued their work to make British Columbia a better place for children and youth. In 2017 we opened the Child and Youth Legal Centre, which has continued to grow in size and capacity. Over the past year, SCY lawyers and staff expanded the program and as a result of their dedication and great work, we provided information and legal services to over 600 children and youth in the province. I have no doubt that we will reach out to even more children and youth in the upcoming year.

The Board of Directors has been at a full complement for the past few years but will see a few changes in 2019. With both the Board and staff, we continue to recruit individuals with diverse backgrounds with the skills necessary to carry out the strategic plan for SCY.

We held our second annual "A Night for Rights" event on November 20th, which was another success. We continued to maintain old partners as well as make new ones with new stakeholders. In ensuring that there is a strong financial future for the organization, Stephanie Howell, the Executive Director, continues to strengthen the organization by keeping the vision and mission at the forefront of all of our work.

In conclusion, 2018 was another successful year at SCY and we look forward to what 2019 will bring. On behalf of the Board, I would like to thank our supporters, funders, members, volunteers and staff for their commitment and dedication to improving the rights of young people in our province.

NINA PUREWAL
Board Chair
In reflecting on 2018, the first thing that comes to mind is the change we saw once again. We had to say goodbye to some dedicated staff members who went on to new and exciting opportunities. However, we also welcomed new staff and board members who we are so thankful to have as part of our growing and incredibly dedicated team.

As we slowly made the shift in late 2017 to direct service provision for young people through our Child and Youth Legal Centre program, by the beginning of 2018 our office was bustling with this work. With continued financial support from the Law Foundation of BC, we were able to provide information and legal support, primarily in the areas of family law and child protection, to over 600 young people throughout the province.

We also secured financial support and a 2-year partnership with the City of Vancouver to continue to pilot our Urban Explorers initiative for the next two years through which we will work to find ways to embed the inclusion of youth voice and participation in municipal planning and decision making.

I continue to be very proud of the accomplishments our small team has been able to achieve and am thankful every day for their passion and dedication to our work of upholding the rights of children and youth in this province. I look forward to the year ahead as we work to realize our plans for expanding our team and our service area, as well as connecting with as many young people as possible to ensure that we are advancing our mission in a mindful and strategic way.

STEPHANIE HOWELL
Executive Director
OUR ACTIVITIES

CHILD AND YOUTH LEGAL CENTRE

During 2018 we provided information and legal services for over 600 young people in BC in family law, child protection and other child and youth areas of law. We also engaged in many conversations with a wide variety of stakeholders to ensure that people know about our new Child and Youth Legal Centre programming.

2ND ANNUAL "A NIGHT FOR RIGHTS" FUNDRAISER

On November 20th, 2018 (National Child Day) we held our 2nd Annual Night for Rights Fundraiser, which was a major success!

Save the date for our 2019 event on Wednesday, November 20th!

Left to right: Nina Purewal – SCY Board Chair, Stephanie Howell – SCY Executive Director, Cease Wyss – Friend of SCY, Jennifer Charlesworth – Representative for Children and Youth of BC, Meredith Graham – Spoken Word Artist
The Urban Explorers program aims to provide opportunities for child and youth participation in urban planning and development through the implementation of a sustainability education curriculum that is based on participatory planning methodologies.

Over the 2017-18 school-year we partnered with the City of Vancouver’s Places for People team to deliver a child and youth centred engagement program with a focus on delivering better public spaces for young people. Sixty elementary school students from three Vancouver schools participated in the program. Students ranged from ages 9-12, in grades 4-7.

The Urban Explorers program builds on the objectives of UNICEF’s Child Friendly Cities (CFC) initiatives. CFC aims to implement the Convention on the Rights of the Child at the level of local city governance, with the goal of directly affecting children’s lives in the present and the future.
CHILD RIGHTS PRESENTATIONS AND WORKSHOPS

A couple of highlights:

CHILD RIGHTS PRESENTATIONS AND WORKSHOPS

A full day SCY led Child Rights/Child & Youth Friendly Communities session with youth and adult stakeholders in Okotoks, Alberta.

SCY’s Suzette Narbonne advocates the Circle of the Child model of representation

COLLABORATIONS AND PARTNERSHIPS

We are proud to have been part of many coalitions, community partnerships, and legislation initiatives throughout 2018. Some of the highlights include:

- BC Healthy Child Development Alliance
- BC Poverty Reduction Coalition
- First Call Coalition
- BC School Centred Mental Health Coalition

- #AllOnBoard Campaign Endorsers
- Child Rights Education Week participants
- Circle of the Child Model of Representation—trainings and implementation support
2018 in Figures

5000+ Child Rights resources distributed across the province

750+ Participants at our Child Rights workshops and presentations

600 Young people received services through our new Child and Youth Legal Centre

60 Middle years children participated in our Urban Explorers program, making cities more friendly for children and youth
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We'd like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all the donors and funders that have supported our work this year.

GRANTS AND FUNDING

- Law Foundation of British Columbia
- Law Society of British Columbia
- Notary Foundation of British Columbia
- Office of the Representative for Children and Youth of BC
- Law Foundation of Ontario Access to Justice Fund
- Town of Okotoks, AB
- United Way of the Lower Mainland
- Service Canada
- Financial Assistance from the Province of British Columbia through the Community Gaming Grant

CORPORATE SPONSORS AND MAJOR DONORS

- Global Container Terminals, Canada
- Smithers Justice Community: "Justice Bowl"
- The Langara Student Group
- Francie Howard
- Bardel Entertainment
- All of the businesses and other donors who sponsored our "A Night for Rights" event silent auction and cash bar.

VOLUNTEERS

We thank all of our volunteers for their passion for and dedication to SCY

- Scott Garoupa
- Guatam Parhar
- Guille Jimenez
- Matthew Chan
- Danika Howell
- Margie Sanderson
- Erica Eng
- Rosie Bolderston
- Tazmin Mitha
- Gurleen Dhadda
- Kendall Henrikson
- Daphne Howell
- Our SCY Child and Youth Legal Centre Advisory Committee members - you know who you are!
GET INVOLVED

Be a Champion
Support us through a donation today. Visit scyofbc.org/donate

Become a member
Membership costs just $25/year for individuals, or $100 for organizations, and gives you access to our Child Rights Network newsletter. Email us at info@scyofbc.org to learn more!

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