



Boys & Girls Clubs  
of Saskatoon

# ANNUAL REPORT

## 2014



**A good place to be**

## **MISSION STATEMENT**

**To provide a safe, supportive place where children and youth can experience new opportunities, overcome barriers, build positive relationships and develop confidence and skills for life.**

## **VISION STATEMENT**

**All children and youth discover and achieve their dreams and grow up to be healthy, successful and active participants in society.**

## **CORE VALUES**

Boys & Girls Clubs of Saskatoon is a value driven organization. The Core Values that we ascribe to in our dealings with children, youth, family and community define our reason for being.

### **BELONG**

We welcome everyone in a safe, accepting environment based on belonging and positive relationships.

### **RESPECT**

We ensure that everyone – children, youth, families, volunteers, staff – is heard, respected, valued and treated fairly.

### **ENCOURAGE AND SUPPORT**

We encourage and support every child and youth to play, learn and grow to achieve their dreams.

### **WORK TOGETHER**

We work together with young people, families, volunteers, our communities and government.

### **SPEAK OUT**

We speak out with children, youth and families so that we can make our world better.

### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2014-2015**

ALANA WAKULA	President ( <i>Apr-Dec</i> )
SCOTT MCBEAN	Vice President
CHRIS MCCARTHY	Treasurer ( <i>Nov - Dec</i> )
LAKELYN WYLIE	Secretary ( <i>Apr-Dec</i> )
ROD BUTLER	Past President ( <i>President – Jan-Mar</i> )
BRANDON HARRIS	Director ( <i>Treasurer – Jan-Mar</i> )
ALEXIS NYWANDWI	Director ( <i>joined Board in March</i> )
COURTNEY ROHACHUK	Director ( <i>Secretary – Jan-Mar</i> )
LYLE ACOOSE	Director ( <i>resigned Nov 2014</i> )
FAITH ROWLAND	Director ( <i>resigned May 2014</i> )

## **EMPLOYEES**

### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

#### **DIRECTOR OF PROGRAMS**

#### **BEFORE & AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM**

*MANAGER*

(August return from maternity leave)

*ASSISTANT MANAGER*

(Acting Manager for maternity leave until August)

*ACTING ASSISTANT MANAGER* (Jan-Aug)

#### **CONFEDERATION PARK CLUBHOUSE**

*CLUB DIRECTOR*

#### **CORE NEIGHBOURHOOD YOUTH CLUB**

*EDUCATION MANAGER*

#### **PLEASANT HILL CLUBHOUSE**

*CLUB DIRECTOR*

#### **WHITE BUFFALO CLUB**

*CLUB DIRECTOR*

#### **PRESCHOOLS**

*TEACHER – ECOLE COLLEGE PARK*

*TEACHER – JOHN LAKE SCHOOL*

#### **EARLY LEARNING CENTRE**

*DIRECTOR*

*ASSISTANT DIRECTOR*

*EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATORS*

*ELC COOK*

#### **OFFICE ADMINISTRATION**

**EVENT, VOLUNTEER & COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR** VICKI SCHNEIDER (Feb-Sept)

#### **VOLUNTEERS, PART TIME EMPLOYEES & SEASONAL EMPLOYEES**

Boys & Girls Clubs of Saskatoon employed a total of 203 Full Time, Part Time and Seasonal Staff in 2014. In 2014 BGCS had 43 regular volunteers (board, program, committee), 9 practicum students, 25 College of Nursing community service students and numerous parents.

WANDA DESJARDINS

HEIDI CARL

LEIGH ANN MCLEAN

LINDSAY ROY

BRIANNE HAWKESWOOD

JEANELLE TRAYNOR

RAYLENE DOVE

MEGHAN HESELWOOD (Jan-Aug)

SYDNI THORPE (Sept-Dec)

AARON CRUZ (*September – December*)

MARLENE EAGER

JODI KEITH

LINDSEY LAWTON

CARMELLA GARDINER

ANALIZA LAGRIA

RICHELLE LAMBIE

IMCY LERIO

AMANDA PADLESKY

LIRO PLAZO

TRINA QUILLINAN

KANTA SHARMA

LESLEY THIESSEN

GLORIA BURKE

TRACY VERITY

## **BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF SASKATOON**

### **2014 Board President's Report**

April 27, 2015

#### **BOYS AND GIRLS CLUBS OF SASKATOON PRESIDENT'S 2014 ANNUAL REPORT**

The Boys and Girls Clubs of Saskatoon celebrated many successes in 2014. It has been my pleasure to serve as President of the Board of Directors over the past year.

In May 2015, our Executive Director, 2 staff members and 2 board members attended the National Conference in Niagara Falls, Ontario, attending training and information sessions, and networking with members of Boys and Girls Clubs across the country to build relationships and develop ideas to strengthen our Club and continue benefitting children and families in our community.

We are sad to see the final running of the Bridge City Boogie on June 8, 2014, and wish to say one last "thank you" to the Star Phoenix for their support over the years.

Through the Jays Care Foundation, several of our boys participated in training, and travel to Minneapolis for the Jr. RBI Classic, a round-robin baseball tournament held at the MLB All-Star Game. This was the first time on an airplane for some of the children and a once-in-a-lifetime experience for all, in which the children developed skills such as teamwork, communication, and self-confidence.

Our inaugural Race for Kids took place on May 31, 2014, and was a successful and positive experience for participants, staff, volunteers, and the community.

We welcome Donna Heselwood to the team in the role of Event, Volunteer, and Communications Coordinator, who is working tirelessly to make this year's Race for Kids bigger and better.

The 27<sup>th</sup> annual golf tournament was held on August 9, 2014 at Moon Lake Golf and Country Club. Thank you to organizers, participants, and sponsors who continue to support this event.

Much planning and effort has gone into preparing for a Peer Review by Boys and Girls Clubs of Canada. On behalf of the Board of Directors, I would like to recognize and thank all of the staff your positive contributions that have helped our organization become a leader in the provision of services to children in our community.

We as a Board are committed to continuing to serve the Boys and Girls Clubs of Saskatoon. We look forward to the coming year, continuing to develop our own processes to ensure we provide the highest level of governance. Our goals include further engaging with and continuing to develop relationships in our community, shining a bright light on the important work our organization does to support and benefit children, youth, and families in Saskatoon.

Sincerely,

Alana Wakula  
Board President

## **BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF SASKATOON**

### **2014 Executive Director's Report**

Boys & Girls Clubs of Saskatoon believes that "Every Kid Has Potential" and that all children should have the opportunity to participate in quality programs right in their own neighbourhood. We continue to make a significant difference in the lives of young people. Children and youth are at the center of everything we do. We speak out on their behalf to reduce barriers, enhance lives and enable voices & ideas to be heard.

In 2014, Boys & Girls Clubs of Saskatoon celebrated some very significant and exciting achievements, and we also were forced to accept some rather difficult challenges. In February of 2014, we celebrated 40 years of serving Saskatoon's children and youth, we were "hand-picked" by the Jays Care Foundation of the Toronto Blue Jays to put together a baseball team of 12, 12 year old boys and take them on the field trip of a lifetime! These 12 boys and their 3 coaches from Saskatoon, SK, represented the Toronto Blue Jays at the Jr. RBI Classic during the All-Star Break for Major League Baseball in Minneapolis, Minnesota! And, on a sad note and after 6 years of support, we had to say good-bye to the Bridge City Boogie.

In 2014, Boys & Girls Clubs of Saskatoon provided programming for 3434 children and youth in 39 locations in Saskatoon and area. The Confederation Park Club, Pleasant Hill Club, White Buffalo Club and Core Neighbourhood Club along with our Mini Clubs were able to provide programs at no cost to 736 children and youth; approximately 80% of whom were of Aboriginal descent.

Boys & Girls Clubs of Saskatoon is ***A good place to be!!***

We continue to receive support for our efforts to provide quality programming for kids.

As a member of Boys & Girls Clubs of Canada, we have tremendous opportunity and funding from the partnerships that have been developed at the national level in support of local Clubs like ours.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the many individuals who have made donations to Boys & Girls Clubs of Saskatoon in 2014!

***A big thank you goes to the following for support that we received in 2014:***

#### **MAJOR FUNDERS & CORPORATE PARTNERS:**

- \* RBC Foundation
- \* Saskatchewan Lotteries Trust Fund for Sport, Culture and Recreation
- \* The Star Phoenix and the Bridge City Boogie
- \* United Way of Saskatoon & Area

#### **PROGRAM SPONSORS & PARTNERS:**

- \* Boys & Girls Clubs of Canada Foundation
- \* Canada Summer Jobs
- \* Canadian Tire Jumpstart
- \* City of Saskatoon
- \* Community Initiatives Fund
- \* Core Neighbourhood Youth Co-op (CNYC)

- \*✘ Government of Saskatchewan – Ministry of Education – Early Learning & Child Care Branch
- \*✘ Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools
- \*✘ Hitachi Foundation
- \*✘ Jays Care Foundation – Toronto Blue Jays
- \*✘ Kinsmen Activity Place House (KAP House)
- \*✘ Michaels
- \*✘ Prairieland Park Corporation – Prairieland Exhibition
- \*✘ President’s Choice Children’s Charity
- \*✘ River Lights Festival Committee
- \*✘ Rogers Youth Fund
- \*✘ Saskatoon Public School Division
- \*✘ Sears Canada
- \*✘ Saskatchewan Government Insurance (SGI)
- \*✘ The Saskatoon Preschool Foundation
- \*✘ Urban Aboriginal Grant
- \*✘ Westjet
- \*✘ White Buffalo Youth Lodge

**FRIENDS OF BGC SASKATOON:**

- \*✘ Clark’s Crossing Brew Pub Annual Charity Golf Tournament
- \*✘ Henry Remai
- \*✘ Success Office Systems

**RACE FOR KIDS, Corporate Sponsors:**

- \*✘ SIGA
- \*✘ Cameco
- \*✘ SaskTel
- \*✘ Ernst & Young LLP
- \*✘ SaskEnergy
- \*✘ Saskatoon Media Group

**RACE FOR KIDS, Checkpoint Sponsors:**

- \*✘ Burnett’s Key Shop
- \*✘ Easy Home – 22<sup>nd</sup> St.
- \*✘ Escape Sports
- \*✘ Freedom Functional Fitness
- \*✘ Riverside Badminton & Tennis Club
- \*✘ Roxy Theatre
- \*✘ The Trading Post

**26<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT:**

- \*✘ Barga Salvage Insurance

- \* Budget Car & Truck
- \* Con-Tech Contractors
- \* RBC
- \* RBC Foundation
- \* Saskatchewan Blue Cross

Boys & Girls Clubs of Saskatoon uses Boys & Girls Clubs of Canada's Model for Success to guide us when planning our programs. In following the Model for Success, BGCS is able to deliver programs that support our Mission & Vision Statements.

The Core Program Areas of the Outcomes Framework are grouped into four main categories that are essential to healthy child development:

- \* Physical Activity, Health & Safety
- \* Leadership, Growth & Empowerment
- \* Learning & Career Development
- \* Families & Communities

- \* The Confederation Park Club, located in a portable classroom next to Bishop Roborecki School, had a really good year in 2014 with 167 members registered and attending our recreational drop in programs from 3:15 until 5:30 each afternoon and Wednesday night Gym Nights from 6:30 until 8:30 pm. The Youth Leading Youth leadership program continues to run in partnership with the Pleasant Hill Club and the White Buffalo Club. YLY includes the formation of the youth council, Elder visits, drum making, hoop dancing, cultural teachings and field trips. YLY is funded by the City of Saskatoon and CIF. Canadian Tire Jump Start provides sport opportunities for our participants with group clinics and equipment purchases. We continue to have 2 groups of children participating each day; the younger group meets in the school and the older group meets in the Clubhouse. The groups are led by our Confederation Park Club Director and her 3 Club Program Leaders.
- \* The Pleasant Hill Club is located in Kinsmen Activity Place House and is open to the children in the neighbourhood for recreational drop in programs Monday – Friday from 3:00 until 5:30 pm. In 2014, 78 children were registered and attended our programs in Pleasant Hill. The Youth Leading Youth leadership program continues to run in partnership with the Confederation Park Club and the White Buffalo Club. YLY includes the formation of the youth council, Elder visits, drum making, hoop dancing, cultural teachings and field trips. YLY is funded by the City of Saskatoon and CIF. Canadian Tire Jump Start provides sport opportunities for our participants with group clinics and equipment purchases. The Pleasant Hill Club could not remain open without funding from the RBC Foundation. The Pleasant Hill Club has one Director and one Club Program Leader.
- \* The White Buffalo Club is located at White Buffalo Youth Lodge. We employ a full time Club Director and one Club Program Leader to join with the WBYL staff in offering programs after school to the children in the neighbourhood. In 2014, 96 children and youth were attending the program at White Buffalo. The Youth Leading Youth leadership program continues to run in partnership with the Pleasant Hill Club and the Confederation Park Club. YLY includes the formation of the youth council, Elder visits, drum making, hoop dancing, cultural teachings and field trips. YLY is funded by the City of Saskatoon and CIF. Canadian Tire Jump Start provides sport opportunities for our participants through group clinics and equipment purchases. The White Buffalo Club would not exist without funding from the RBC Foundation and the partnership that we have with White Buffalo Youth Lodge.
- \* Our partnership with Core Neighbourhood Co-op continues to be successful. The second year of our Rogers Raising the Grade program began in September of 2014. The RRTG program is a great success, we have touched the lives of 40 youth in 2014 with the program. The Tech Centre is fitted with 10 computers that are loaded with numerous educational software packages. BGC Saskatoon

will be funded by BGC Canada's corporate partner Rogers Communications and the Rogers Youth Fund for 2 more years to run the RRTG program. The goal of RRTG is to encourage youth to "raise their grades", to stay in school and to continue their education. Unlike our other Clubs, the Club at Core Neighbourhood and the RRTG program reaches youth ages 14 – 23 years old. We are very grateful to CNYC for opening their doors and allowing us to become a part of what they are doing in the Riversdale neighbourhood and its youth.

- ✘ Our Mini Clubs offer programming before and after school to children free of charge. The idea behind the Mini Club is to enable parents in need to attend school or to enter or re-enter the work force. All of the families who we support in our Mini Clubs are low income families. Unfortunately for some of the families and children in our Mini Clubs, we were forced to make some tough choices in 2014. Due to criteria changes with the UAS grant that we have been receiving for the past number of years, we are no longer eligible to apply for funding. We ended the 2013/2014 school year with 8 Mini Club locations and we started the 2014/2015 school year with 6 Mini Clubs and fewer staff. Fewer staff means fewer children able to attend the program. We continue to offer Mini Club programs in Howard Coad, St. John, St. Mark, St. Michael, St. Goretti & St. Frances Schools. In 2014, 344 children and youth registered and attended who otherwise wouldn't have a place to go and their parents were able to obtain employment and/or to further their education.
- ✘ The Before & After School Programs continue to thrive and grow, and we continue to receive requests for programs. Other than employees who work minimally, all of our Program Leaders are trained in High Five Principles of Healthy Childhood Development. Our Before & After School Program Manager, Assistant Manager and one Staff Supervisor are all qualified High Five Trainers. We offered programs to 2023 children in 2014. Our BAS Programs ran in 22 schools in both the Saskatoon Public School Division and Greater Catholic Schools as well as in 2 schools in the Prairie Spirit School Division in 2014.
- ✘ Our Preschool programs remain strong with classes for 3 and 4 year olds in Ecole College Park and John Lake School and our teachers are fantastic! We offer programs for 4 year olds in the mornings and afternoons on Monday, Wednesday & Friday and for 3 year olds on Tuesday & Thursday mornings at John Lake School. At Ecole College Park our preschool is bilingual and classes for 4 year olds are offered in the mornings on Monday, Wednesday & Friday and for 3 year olds on Tuesday & Thursday mornings. In 2014 we had 117 preschool children in our classes.
- ✘ The Early Learning Centre's programming incorporates our Core Values and follows the Play and Exploration Early Learning Program Guide which encourages children to explore the world around them in a fun, safe and stimulating environment and to become independent learners. Our Early Learning Centre is a positive model for good care, we provide a healthy environment that protects children from danger, fosters friendships and a sense of belonging. We have room for 51 infants and preschool children in our Early Learning Centre. In 2014, a total of 74 children ages 6 weeks old until their first day of Grade 1 were cared for in our ELC.
- ✘ The Pike Lake Summer Day Camps were almost filled to capacity in 2014 with 216 children attending, most of them for multiple weeks. With help from Canadian Tire Jumpstart, we offered 51 kids from our Mini Clubs and Club locations, camp spaces at no charge. This year, we eliminated the Thursday night sleepovers and the age groupings. Now all children ages 6 – 12 years can participate at the same time. The children are still in age groupings while at camp, but the change makes it easier for parents to plan their summer. While at Pike Lake, the campers participated in crafts, games, the nature hiking trail, swimming, mini golf and of course, they played ball!
- ✘ Our Summer in the City Day Camps were once again extremely popular. The day camps are meant to help out families with affordable care for their school aged children during July and August. This year, we added a Summer in the City Day Camp West location which was based out of Hampton Free Methodist Church. Our Summer in the City Day Camp East location continues to be based out of St. Joseph's Hall on the corner of 8<sup>th</sup> St. and Broadway. The locations are fantastic and the camps were filled with 208 children attending, most of them for multiple weeks. While at SCDC, the children are able to explore areas and events in Saskatoon such as the Fringe Festival on Broadway,

the community gardens in Confederation Park and swimming. Weeks are themed and the activities that are planned weekly, reflect the themes as much as possible.

- ✂ We continue to partner with Prairieland Exhibition in running the Youth Employment Program. We hired 56 youth between the ages of 12 and 18 years old to keep the grounds clean during the week of the Prairieland Exhibition. We also had approximately 60 recycling barrels for can and bottle collection set out in various places throughout the grounds that 4 of our youth were in charge of managing.
- ✂ In December of 2014, Boys & Girls Clubs of Saskatoon had to say a sad farewell to the Bridge City Boogie. BGC Saskatoon enjoyed 6 fantastic years of partnership and comradery as a recipient charity of the Boogie. The Bridge City Boogie, a fundraising event organized by the StarPhoenix, ended after 8 successful years. We are so grateful to the StarPhoenix for the tremendous support that they have always given to BGC Saskatoon. BCB – we will miss you☺
- ✂ Clark's Crossing Brew Pub held their 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Charity Golf Tournament in support of Boys & Girls Clubs of Saskatoon. The tournament was held in July at Holiday Park Golf Club. Thanks to Clark's Crossing for continuing to run a really fun tournament in support of BGC Saskatoon.
- ✂ This year, BGC Saskatoon was able to send 4 staff members and 2 board members to the Boys & Girls Clubs of Canada National Conference in Niagara Falls, ON. Fellow staff members, Heidi Carl, Leigh-Ann McLean & Lindsey Lawton joined me in attending the conference, and from our Board of Directors, Alana Wakula and Brandon Harris were able to go.
- ✂ The Saskatchewan Parks & Recreation Conference was held in Swift Current in October. Heidi Carl, Lindsay Mercer & Jeanelle Traynor attended the conference this year.
- ✂ BGC Saskatoon took part in its very first annual Race for Kids in 2014! The event is a combination of Amazing Race and Minute to Win It, where teams of 4 race to 10 checkpoints, complete the challenge at each checkpoint and finally, cross the finish line. The weather was perfect, the challenges were fun, everyone had a blast and money was raised to support the programs that we offer to our children and youth!
- ✂ The 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Charity Golf Tournament was held at Moon Lake Golf & Country Club this year. The day was beautiful and everyone who golfed in the tournament had a great time. Once again, a huge thank you goes out to Adam Binkley, Executive Director of Boys & Girls Club of Summerside, PEI for his very generous donation of accommodations and golf entry fees for two to the BGC Summerside Annual Charity Golf Tournament in July!
- ✂ BGC Saskatoon was asked, and we agreed to host the PacWest Conference in 2015. This is a huge honour and very exciting for us in that, it will be the first time a conference for Boys & Girls Clubs has ever been held in Saskatchewan.
- ✂ And, saving the best for last – Boys & Girls Clubs of Saskatoon had the distinct honour of being asked by the Jays Care Foundation of the Toronto Blue Jays, if we would be interested and able to put together a group of 12 year old boys to create a baseball team to be entered into the Jr. RBI Classic during the Major League Baseball All-Star Break in Minneapolis! Our Saskatoon Blue Jays were one of eight teams from across North America to be chosen, and we were the only team from Canada. Of course we said YES!! First, we set up our coaching staff: Heidi Carl, Meghan Heselwood and Ryan Desjardins. Then, we created the team – our 12 boys were kids from our 3 Clubs, 3 of our Mini Clubs and 1 of our Before & After School Programs. The criteria for choosing them was simple – they had to be attending Club regularly and they had to display leadership skills. Weekly practises started in late February at the Going Yard and when the weather improved, practises and exhibition games were held at Saskatoon Minor Baseball fields. Todd Erskine, Jays Care Coordinator came to Saskatoon 2 times during practise season to teach the kids some baseball skills. After each practise, the boys were treated to pizza, compliments of Boston Pizza. In between practise times, there were forms, forms and more forms to be filled out. Passports, medical appointments and certificates needed to be obtained. The paperwork was dizzying! We also held a few fundraisers to help cover some of the costs. Major League Baseball covered the costs of flights and accommodations to Minneapolis and Jays Care supplied the team and coaches with Blue Jays uniforms, baseball gloves

& equipment, Blue Jays clothing and Blue Jays suitcases. The fundraising that BGCS did covered the costs of passports, medical certificates and spending money for the boys while in Minneapolis and other miscellaneous items. Then came the trip! The boys landed in Minneapolis in July and they were there for 5 nights. The team was treated royally by MLB. Besides the Jr. RBI Classic tournament of 6 games, the boys were able to attend the Home Run Derby, the Futures Game and the Celebrity Softball Game. They participated in a community service activity in Minneapolis for a homeless shelter and spent time with former baseball greats. One of our boys was chosen and received the Most Sportsmanlike Award and was privileged to be able to go on the field to shag balls during the Home Run Derby. When they arrived home, the boys were exhausted, but incredibly happy. They went on the field trip of a lifetime, they will have memories and stories to tell. The boys all gained many skills, and not only baseball skills. They matured, they gained self-esteem and self-respect, and they believe in themselves. The experience was a ton of work, but we would do it again in a heartbeat – because it's all about the kids.

I want to thank my co-workers at Boys & Girls Clubs of Saskatoon. Without dedicated, enthusiastic and passionate people we wouldn't be able to offer the excellent programs that we do. I believe in teamwork and without a team – especially *THIS* team, I wouldn't be able to do my job or fulfill my dreams for this wonderful organization and BGCS wouldn't be able to either!

Thank you to Boys & Girls Clubs of Saskatoon's Board of Directors for their support, patience and belief in me and our organization. The time that you devote to Boys & Girls Clubs of Saskatoon is invaluable and is what helps to make our organization the success that it is. Together, we can move in the direction that we need to enable us to enrich the lives of more of Saskatoon's children and youth.

Our team of staff and board members, makes our organization the success that it is and every employee, every volunteer, every sponsor, every supporter *and* every child who participates in our programs, makes Boys & Girls Clubs of Saskatoon not only "A good place to be", but a great place to be.

THANK YOU!

Respectfully submitted,

Wanda Desjardins  
Executive Director