



Community and Seniors Centres Annual Report January - December 2014

Centre: Fairfield Community Place & Garry Oak Room/Corinne's Kitchen

Address: 1330 Fairfield Rd & 1335 Thurlow Rd

Operating Association/Society: Fairfield Gonzales Community Association

Society Registration Number: S-11840 (September 15, 1975)

Registered Charitable Tax Number (if applicable): 12821 0259 RR0001

Month of Annual General Meeting: October

Days of operation per year: 355

Total number of employees: FT: 5 (12 month) 16 (10 month) PT: 83 Instructors: 8

Programs Quantitative Analysis

Recreation Programs	# Programs Offered		# Unique visits
	Registered	Drop-in	(# of programs x # people attending)
Children	7		162
Youth	1	1	581
Adult	13	1	846
Senior			Our adult programs include seniors
Family		1	585
Other		1	40
Total:	21	4	2214

	# spaces offered	# spaces filled
Non licensed Childcare	6 per session (lunch and learn) 24 sessions /year	Average of 5 per session/24 sessions /year
Licensed Childcare	222	222
Total:	228	227

Services Quantitative Analysis

Services	# Offered	# People Served
Special Events (list) (add more lines as necessary)		
The Place Is Your Place	9	40
Fall Fairfield	1	800
OSC Family Fun Day	1	250
FGCA Gala Fundraiser	1	150
Spring Clean	1	50
Mural Project Art Workshops	5	200
Board Reunion	1	40
Automatic Door Celebration	1	30
Annual General Meeting	1	35
Rentals (total #)	136 (855 bookings)	75,000
Resource Referrals (total #)	1	300
Social Support Services (list):		
Youth and Family Counseling	13 FTE Counselors	1025 students served
Family Drop-Ins	78 sessions	1560
Parent Education	24 sessions	144
Lunch and Learn	30 sessions	400
Clothing Exchange	11	330
Neighbourhood Development (list):		
Moss Street Market Booth	15	1500
Sustainability Outreach Project	1	1000
Fairfield Stories Mural Project	1	500
Archive Project	1	5
Observer Newspaper	2	10,000
Community Garden	1	500
CAN Insurance	1	5
Total	336	95,064

Leverage Model

A

Direct City of Victoria Investment for 2014	Amount in cash
Operating grant	\$48,053
Youth grant	\$15,000
Custodial grant	\$27,372
Neighbourhood Dev. Base grant	\$11,869
Neighbourhood Dev. Matching grant	\$3,525
Shape Your Future grant	n/a
Community Art grant	\$7,500
Greenways grant	n/a
Special Projects grant	
Other City grants (CAN insurance- admin cost)	\$5,000
Total A	\$118,179

B

Indirect City of Victoria Investment for 2014 (to be completed by City)	Value
SD 61 Joint Use	7,610
Utilities	13,024
Maintenance & repair costs	15,327
Other (Capital Investment)	45,700
Total B	81,661

C

Association Annual Operating revenue for 2014 (excluding in kind)	Amount in cash
Municipal Government (City of Victoria)	\$118,179
Provincial Government	\$188,990
Federal Government	\$27,403
Special Event Fundraising	\$13,608
Facility Rental	\$33,810
Recreation Program Fees (including Youth program)	\$69,993
Foundations and grants	\$15,264
Donations	\$12,143
School District 61	\$1,032,808
Child care Parent fees (preschools, osc, camps)	\$583,846
Total C	\$2,096,044

D

Volunteer opportunities:	# people	X	# hours	Total Volunteer hours
Programs	30		25	750
Services	30		36	1080
Events	65		9	585
Other	10		48	480
Total				2895

Volunteer Valuation

a)Total volunteer hours (value unskilled labour)	X	80%	X	\$18.73	=	43,378.68
b)Total volunteer hours (value skilled labour)	X	20%	X	\$40.00	=	23,160.00
Total Volunteer valuation D (a+b)					=	66,538.68

Leverage Valuation

C (Association Operating Revenue)	+	D (Volunteer Valuation)	=	Leverage
A (Direct City Investment)	+	B (Indirect City Investment)		
C \$2,096,044	+	D \$66538	=	10.82
A 118,179	+	B 81,661		

Per Person Valuation

C (Association Investment)	Divided by	#visits per year	=	\$ value per person served
\$2,096,044	/	97,505	=	\$21.50
A + B (Total City of Victoria investment)	Divided by	# recreation visits per year	=	\$ invested per person served
199,840	/	2214	=	\$90.26

Per Person Valuation

Fairfield Community Place truly lives up to the FGCA tagline, “the place to connect”. We aim to provide a safe and inclusive space for all who live, work, and play here, and to provide service throughout all stages of life.

The facility itself and the excellent staff and instructors provide a stable, grounded space for residents to connect with their community. This style of place based service provision helps build a strong sense of community identity among residents.

Many of our programs also deliberately focus on peer-to-peer connections (for instance parent and tot drop-ins and youth programs) so that connections made can continue outside of the FGCA.

We provide opportunities for citizen’s voices to be heard at our Board meetings, in our Observer newspaper, through social media, and in surveys and evaluations.

As the second largest employer in Fairfield Gonzales, and a major provider of affordable childcare, we contribute to the economic well-being of the neighbourhood. In 2014 we were also able to focus on cultural and environmental sustainability through a Community Arts grant and a matching grant focused on sustainability outreach and education, both from the City of Victoria.

We are able to reach a very wide cross-section of the community through our participation in the weekly Moss Street Market and our popular Fall Fairfield: Harvest Fete, now in its fourth year.

1. Please speak to your centre’s day to day vitality as a hub for the neighbourhood.

2. Please provide up to 3 impact statements via testimonials, survey results or accomplishments directly related to your centre’s programs and services.

“This program (parent and tot drop in) has given me a place to come, have a break, socialize, learn new skills and is a fun and educational place to go. My daughter runs right in and starts to play and is comfortable with all program facilitators. She sings the songs she learns at playgroup at home. We look forward to it every week.”

“I wanted to let you know Ben really enjoyed Youth Zone. I appreciated your enthusiasm and creativity in developing the activities. I felt that there was a good mix of fun activities and opportunities to build leadership skills and give back to the community. It was helpful to receive the emails regarding monthly schedule, return times and helpful reminders. I appreciate how accommodating you were to early dismissals at school. I think you did a great job and offered a quality after school program.”

“During the short time I worked in the FGCA youth programs for my University of Victoria second-year practicum, the mentorship and supportive presence of the FGCA staff taught me as much about the importance of respectful, supportive teamwork in youth work as my time working in their youth programs did. The FGCA staff team brought a genuine, positive energy to their daily work, and this sincerely enriched my experience of leading youth programs within a professional organization,” Nate Demetrius, practicum student in FGCA youth programs, 2014

Health and Wellness

1) We provide a number of recreation programs (e.g. Iyengar Yoga, Zumba, Zumba Toning, Zumba 15, Qi Gong, Yin Yoga, Stretch and Restore Yoga, Hand Drumming, Badminton, Spanish, and Sportball).

2) We provide quality CAPC funded family programs:

“This program (parent and tot drop in) introduced me to other parents with whom to share experiences/ideas; reduces feeling of isolation a caregiver can have from spending all day with young kids.”

“It is an integral part of my toddler’s social development. She absolutely loves coming to play group.”

3) We provide a safe place for people to learn more and connect to the community (e.g. we have a common area with couches and dining tables with access to a common kitchen, telephone, and computer.

1. How does your centre promote health and wellness? (Please cite up to 3 examples)

2. What new health and wellness initiatives have you implemented, supported and/or maintained this year?

-we provide low cost or free space for a number of support groups (e.g. VIHA Mental Health Support Group, Chronic Pain Support Group, Narcotics Anonymous, and Youth In Care)

-Lunch Laugh and Learn program supports families weekly

-responded to a demand for different yoga by adding two new classes which accommodated seventeen new participants.

-we have partnered with the Garth Homer Society to offer a weekly felting club

3. What are your community’s health and wellness concerns and how are you addressing them?

-Physical Access – door and federal grant proposal

e.g. we had an automatic door installed in our main building entrance and applied for and were awarded funding to improve access to our portable)

-Support group space/referral

e.g. we have noticed an increase in the number of requests for free space to accommodate support programs and we do our best to fit these requests in around our programming)

-Youth program expansion

e.g. we have increased the number of programs (teen leadership) and spaces (5 in our afterschool leadership).

Sustainable Community Development

1. How does City funding allow you to address the sustainability of your organization?

- the facility provided allows us to vastly stretch our resources, as we do not have to pay rent to host many of our programs. This means we can put more money toward staff and the costs of the program, retaining staff and offering many low or no cost programs
- youth and recreation dollars give us the administrative capability to host those programs and to keep our office open
- BASE grant assists with administrative costs and outreach for the organization, and allows us to communicate with the community and membership (eg. website, newsletter, events, and meetings)
- yearly project grants allow us to expand our reach by offering service outside our usual program delivery
- allows us to leverage funding from other sources (eg. Jump N' Start Program: City contributes outreach grant for staffing, MCFD provides supply costs, Youth and Family Counsellors refer youth into the program)

2. What are you doing internally to address the sustainability of your organization? (i.e. - environmental, economic, social etc.)

- each program has an allotment for professional development for staff and Board members
- ongoing assessment of waste and aiming to move toward zero waste
- we do not have an agency vehicle – program users take transit or walk
- staff participated in Bike to Work Week
- staff and volunteers receive a discount on recreation programs
- we have weekly meetings and semi-annual planning days for senior staff, which allow us to map out our resources for the year
- youth programs participate in the Youth Program Quality Initiative
- staff participate in networking opportunities to stay up to date in our fields (e.g. CCN, ROSCO, CAPC, Community Kitchen Network, Emerging Leaders Network)
- regular Health and Safety meetings
- all staff have current First Aid certification

3. How does your centre align with the City of Victoria's Sustainability Action Plan directions?

A) Reduce - reduce waste and emissions & increase efficiency

- hosting zero waste events (e.g. Fall Fairfield, Family Fun Day), partnering with ReFuse
- host a monthly clothing swap to reduce clothing waste
- plastics recycling program – 2 depots each month
- Spring Clean event – promoting reduce, reuse, and recycle
- work with Moss St Market on zero waste initiative
- permaculture community garden (education opportunities for schools and community)
- nature based preschool program

B) Transform - transformation and leadership

- leader in permaculture community garden (the only community garden in Fairfield)
- Youth Leadership program, anti-bullying videos, youth fundraising for local charities
- strong leaders and mentors in all child care programs
- sustainability project – practicing leadership through education of residents
- Fairfield Stories Mural project – allowing inclusive opportunities to contribute to public art
- Board socials prior to Board meetings with senior staff included

C) Thrive - creating a livable city for everyone

- safe community access point for information and resources, including phone and internet
- affordable childcare/access to subsidy
- provide space and resources for grassroots initiatives
- free or low cost family and youth programs
- special events, allowing for social opportunities and neighbourhood vitality
- providing a voice for residents

Community Responsiveness

1. How does your centre identify community need and respond to community feedback?

Identify:

- Board meeting have community voices segment
- Planning and Zoning meetings
- social media
- surveys and evaluations
- Moss Street Market Booth
- consult Vital Signs survey and City of Victoria Official Community Plan
- Youth and Family Counsellor reporting from area schools
- any concerns identified by program staff

Respond:

- providing advice and resources to community groups who request it
- Board may take a position on concerns or convey them to the appropriate channel
- create committees or working groups to address concerns
- use feedback to shape future programming
- refer concerns when necessary to other organizations

2. What modifications or implementations have you made in response to community need in these categories?

- Programs (new)
- Services (new)
- Infrastructure (facility, neighbourhood)
- Organization
- Accessibility
- Diversity & inclusion
- Demographic Diversity

- We have increased the number of licensed child-care spaces
- We have combined our print publications and started a new monthly E-Newsletter increasing our capacity to reach the community
- We had an automatic door installed to the entrance of our main building
- We advocated for the Kipling Street crosswalk
- We have expanded our monthly clothing swap program
- We have increased the number of spaces in our registered youth leadership programs by nearly double and have started to provide programming for an older youth demographic (15yr-17yr).
- We have provided a new venue for artists to display their paintings/pictures in our foyer and have promoted monthly gallery nights

Volunteerism

1. What types of volunteer opportunities do you have in your centre?

- Board Directors
- work, practicum, and mentorship experience
- direct program (preschool, youth, Out of School Care etc)
- special event (single day and planning team)
- special projects (archives, sustainability outreach project, mural project, Observer Newspaper)
- administrative
- committees (Planning and Zoning, Streetlife, Community Garden)
- facility (toy washing, facility upkeep)
- management consultancy

2. Please provide up to 3 impact statements via testimonials, survey results or accomplishments directly related to your centre's volunteers.

"I think that positivity and support is what made my time at FGCA so special and fun and encourages me to keep volunteering in the future," – *Kiran Dusanj, event assistant volunteer*

"The work of the FCA/FGCA has taken many paths over the years – from Directors' meetings in the front room of a member's home to prepare a funding proposal to the City for community picnic ice cream, to a zoning brief to preserve the character of our neighbourhood, to community programs and a permanent community space. Congratulations to the hundreds of committed community supporters who have made Fairfield and Gonzales what it is today." – *Steve New, past Board member, on the occasion of our Board Reunion*

"Being a volunteer for FGCA on market booth is the best experience I had during my summer! Getting to know you, Pippa, Catherine and communities, exploring my academic interest here, cooperating with BCSEA and World Fisheries Trust etc. just bring me a lot of treasure to be cherished!! Thanks for giving me a chance to join :)" – *Yaqiong Wang, Sustainability Outreach Project volunteer*