

It is always a surprise reminder when I am told that it is once again time for the AGM newsletter. You would think a year of experience would generate enough memories that I could just sit down and ramble off a few meaningful words about what has happened in those 365 days; but then maybe there are too many and significant moments making it very hard to decide what to include and what not to include.



As an organization we are made up of those who work here and are also privy to their family lives and events. It has been a year of loss for some and of welcoming new babies for others. Those events that we celebrate and share remind me of the importance and impact of family in our lives. It also brings us closer and helps us all to share the little and great victories and challenges that the "human" experience brings us in our work lives.

We have, however, also maintained our focus on families, children and youth that we serve. Within that, as within our own families, we have had to utilise equal doses of imagination and inspiration to get the job done. Getting the job, done and done well, requires a consistent team effort. The Association is indeed far from average in this respect. The Board of Directors, Francis House, Family Intervention, Restorative Justice, Family Counselling, Community Action Plan for Children and the Management staff have all been the driving forces that have kept the work moving forward, improving it and most importantly doing it well.

We must give our appreciation to our partners, sponsors and donors for the strong relationships nurtured and recognize that, with their contributions and donations, they have been central to our successes. It also must be stated that our community partners, with their encouragement and continuing support have sustained us, in spirit, through some of many challenges that we have faced. It shows a shared dedication to the integrity of the family and community needs.

Maybe it is not the memories alone that make the year but the sum of the experience that counts and by my count, they add up to another successful year.

Michael McCoy, Executive Director

Executive Director's Report

Message from the board chair

Touchstone Family Association has always advocated for service accessibility. Over the past year through fund raising initiatives such as our Eating Together Campaign, and community support such as the Women Making a Difference Tee Cup Golf Tournament, we have been able to help families in need. I hope that in the coming year, with increased community support, our Front Porch Projects will thrive and TFA will be able to help even more families.



Maria Salzl, Chair



August 2011

A Message from the Premier

As Premier of the Province of British Columbia, I am very pleased to congratulate everyone involved with the Touchstone Family Association as you celebrate 28 years of social services to the people and families of Richmond.

Your focus over the years has been to strengthen families and when you strengthen families you strengthen communities. It is strong communities that help us build a great and strong province, and I commend the people at Touchstone Family Association for your leadership, your compassion and your commitment. Your social services and programs have touched the lives of many and truly made a difference.

Congratulations and I wish you all the best in the years ahead.

Sincerely,

Christy Clark
Premier



Province of British Columbia
Office of the Premier
www.gov.bc.ca

PO Box 9041 Steezyo
Vancouver BC
V6W 9E1



Malcolm D. Brodie
Mayor

6911 No. 3 Road
Richmond, BC V6Y 2C1
Telephone: 604-276-4123
Fax No: 604-276-4332
www.richmond.ca

GREETINGS FROM THE MAYOR:



On behalf of City Council and the residents of Richmond, I would like to extend sincerest greetings, and welcome you all to Touchstone Family Association's Annual General Meeting held on September 20, 2011 at the Four Points Sheraton Hotel in Richmond.

Since its formation in 1983, Touchstone has dedicated itself to strengthening the social health and independence of families and children through effective intervention and support services. The services they offer are invaluable, and help families not only stay together, but also stay strong. The City of Richmond is also proud to support Touchstone's Restorative Justice Program. This program has not only proven effective, having positive results on all participants but it also helps promote a safe, caring and healthy community.

Please accept my best wishes for continued growth and success, and thank you to everyone who worked so diligently to organize this meeting.

Malcolm D. Brodie
Mayor



MESSAGE FROM THE HONOURABLE MARY MCNEIL



I would like to congratulate the Touchstone Family Association, its staff and volunteers on 28 years of excellent service and dedication to the Richmond community. Tonight is a time to celebrate past achievements and plan for future success—and I wish you all the best.

The Ministry of Children and Family Development is proud of our long standing partnership with the Touchstone Family Association. We appreciate the hard work and exceptional dedication of your volunteers and staff—it is truly heart-warming to see your efforts in helping families to stay together. Your focus on putting children at the center and building on existing family strengths supports our shared vision and approach to creating healthy families, and making real changes in people's lives.

I understand that a key focus of this meeting is resilience. Children reach their potential when they are supported by their families - and families are strongest when supported by their communities. All families face challenges at one time or another, and Touchstone's Eating Together Initiative is a wonderful way to encourage self reliance and resilience in families, enabling them to bounce back. In our increasingly fast paced world, family dinners provide a chance to slow down, listen and connect with one another.

Thank you for all your determination and efforts in helping the Ministry accomplish our goal of putting children and families first. Your work is truly inspiring.

I wish you all the best for your Annual General Meeting. Here's to another 28 years of success!

Sincerely,

Honourable Mary McNeil
Minister of Children and Family Development

Guest Speaker

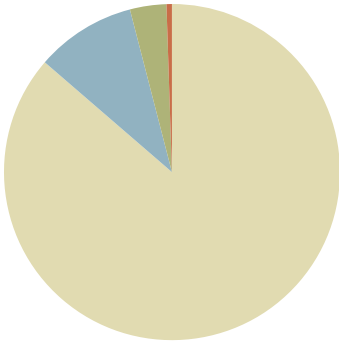
Sophie Pierre



Sophie Pierre is a respected leader among BC First Nations. Prior to her appointment as chief commissioner of BC Treaty Commission, Pierre led the St. Mary's Indian Band for 30 years as elected chief and was the administrator of the Ktunaxa/Kinbasket Tribal Council for 25 years. She also served as the tribal chair of the Ktunaxa Nation Council, chairperson of the First Nations Finance Authority, president of St. Eugene Mission Holdings Ltd. and co-chair of the International Advisory Committee to the Indigenous Nations Institute for Leadership, Management, and Policy for the University of Arizona. Pierre was involved in the work of the BC Claims Task Force and served as a co-chair of the First Nations Summit. She has also served on several boards and committees, including the Environmental and Aboriginal Relations Committee of the BC Hydro & Power Authority and the First Nations Congress. Pierre was recognized with the Order of British Columbia in 2002 and the National Aboriginal Achievement Award in the business category in 2003.

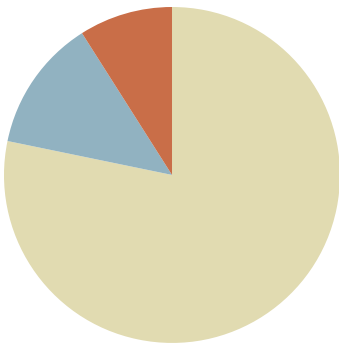
Financials

Revenue



- Ministry Contracts \$2,503,685
- Grants and Subsidies \$279,294
- Fundraising and Sundry \$101,702
- Interest \$15,263
- Total: \$2,899,944**

Expenses



- Wages and Benefits \$2,291,125
- Operating Costs \$373,633
- Administration Costs \$263,548
- Total: \$2,928,306**

Net Loss: \$28,362

Thank you to our sponsors

Donation of \$10,000 +

- TCSI Computers
- Women Making A Difference
- Richmond Community Foundation

Donation of \$1000 +

- CKNW
- Vancouver Shaughnessy Lions Club

Contact



Touchstone
Family Association

Strengthening Family • Building Community

Suite 120 - 6411 Buswell Street,
Richmond, BC V6Y 2G5

Tel: 604 • 279 • 5599

Fax: 604 • 279 • 1814

www.touchstonefamily.ca

