

# HIV COMMUNITY LINK ANNUAL REPORT 2018/2019

FINISH





Letter from  
Leslie Hill, Executive Director and  
Alexandra De Freitas, Board Chair

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**Over the past year, we at HIV Community Link have launched new programs and continued tailoring our current ones to promote wellness through evidence-based and promising practices in Calgary and Southeastern Alberta.**

Building on the success of the Peer Program launched in 2017-2018 in Calgary, HIV Community Link has expanded its mandate and developed a peer program in Medicine Hat, along with the newly launched Well Woman Program. Well Woman supports women and their families in reducing barriers to accessing healthcare and social services.

This past year we continued our many years of strong advocacy and education initiatives to build awareness and accessibility around HIV prevention methods such as PrEP, a medication that prevents HIV transmission. HIV Community Link was the first HIV organization in Canada that put forward a position in support of PrEP and, along with our Board and volunteers, our team worked for more than six years to make PrEP accessible. This advocacy has paid off, as publicly funded PrEP was made available to all Albertans this year.

Another advancement in HIV prevention was a landmark study including 1000 couples where one partner had HIV. These 1000 couples represented 76,000 HIV exposures. Within this study, there were no reports of transmission which further contributes to the body of evidence around U=U, or Undetectable = Untransmittable. This means that if you take your medication regularly and have an undetectable viral load, there is no risk of transmitting HIV to a partner. This is a significant advancement in decreasing the stigma that still exists around HIV.

In our harm reduction portfolio, HIV Community Link continues to provide leadership in the response to the overdose crisis. Through our continued work to implement supervised consumption and other life-saving services such as the peer program for people who use substances, our programs are supporting people to make healthy choices every day.

Our work would not be possible without our staff, donors, community partners, Board of Directors and the many volunteers that make HIV Community Link such an amazing organization. We will continue working together to achieve our vision in the year to come.

Together, we are: Empowering choices. Engaging communities. Ending transmission.

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**Our mission is: Wellness for individuals and communities affected by HIV and hepatitis C through education, prevention, and support.**

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# HIV Support Services

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- 117 unique registered clients; 21 new client intakes
  - 1932 client contacts and 163 referrals to community resources
  - 20 Friday Lunches and 32 additional social inclusion events
  - 88% of clients surveyed report an improvement in quality of life
- 

HIV Community Link provides non-judgmental, compassionate and confidential support for people living with and affected by HIV and hepatitis C. This year we provided new opportunities for our clients to come together, taking a wrap-around approach to health and wellness. HIV Community Link offers individualized support and connections to resources such as treatment, mental health services, housing and employment, as well as basic needs supplies such as emergency food hampers and personal hygiene supplies.

## HIV Peer Program

We have continued to strengthen and develop our Peer Program. Tailored to the specific needs of people living with HIV in Calgary, the program currently offers two support groups lead by trained Peer Facilitators and is in the process of expanding services. Our Peer Navigators are trained to provide one-on-one support and assistance in navigating the complex systems and services for those who have been newly diagnosed with HIV.

Pilot projects such as offsite meetings and specialized workshops have set the program on a renewed and exciting path. After consulting with the community and Peer Advisory Committee, peer support groups and workshops were relocated to the new locations and community spaces to help build connection to the broader Calgary community.

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- 43 Peer Volunteer activities and 167 contacts in Support Groups
  - 27 new program intakes
  - 100% of participants surveyed report feeling better prepared to address HIV related stigma
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## Bill's Story: "Stigma is greater than the diagnosis"

Bill has been living with HIV for 28 years. He grew up in a home where his family faced multiple challenges: his father struggled with his alcohol use, his sister had disabilities, and relationships with his parents were strained. Bill remembers how his close relationship with his mom was impacted when he came out. "When I came out at 19, my mom told me I needed to go to church. For years, she prayed and tried to convert me to being straight. It was probably ten years ago when she realized that's not going to happen."

Bill's mother, who is his best friend, cut him out of her life for a year after he came out. When she came back, Bill was living with his partner. The relationship lasted for a few years until his partner broke up with him, leaving Bill with an HIV diagnosis. Bill was 22 when he tested positive for HIV, and his diagnosis had a profound impact on him. "I just totally went numb. I was walking around like I was the only living being on earth

and everything else was just props on a stage," Bill remembers. Filled with resentment, he took his ex-partner to court. "He was my first love," says Bill, recalling his broken heart. He quit his job and left school. Ending up on social assistance, Bill eventually returned to his parents' home for a place to live.

Bill's diagnosis was in the middle of the AIDS crisis. He recalls that people were dying "left, right and centre" and he lost a lot of friends. Some of them couldn't cope with the fact they were HIV positive and with how it impacted their relationships. Many turned to drugs and alcohol to cope. **"My own family told me they didn't feel sorry for me, that I knew what I was going into when I chose this lifestyle. I will never forget those words."**

But Bill went on with life. "It took me two years to come to the grips with it somewhat," he recalls. Years later, Bill also came to terms with his anger



toward his partner, remembering how he finally asked his lawyers to close the case against him. He started rebuilding his life and got a job at a grocery store, where he worked for the next 23 years.

This work provided him with a reason to continue on, but the shiftwork took its toll on him. His doctor provided him a note for his employer, revealing that Bill had an “underlying condition.” From that moment on his employer tried everything to find out about his condition, as his health continued to deteriorate. “In 2004, I was on my death bed. I was anorexic, in really bad shape. I got blood transfusions. When I went back to work, I could only work part-time shifts,” he remembers, saying that employer finally found out about his status. “They knew better not to fire me, but they refused to give me work. I went to arbitration. I won and got my job back. For the next two years, they made my life so miserable that I was on and off short-term disability. I was segregated; they would make rude sarcastic remarks. I would work all alone because people were afraid to get HIV.” Bill went on long-term disability in 2008 and says that losing his job was a heavy thing to deal with. He adds that he would still be working, had he been treated properly.

Bill started coming to HIV Community Link almost two years ago. At first, he received supportive counselling with our social worker and more recently he has been participating in Friday lunches and other social activities. He enjoys coming to the drop in space to spend time with peers. On the summer of 2018, he achieved a major milestone for himself when he walked in the Pride Parade in Calgary for the first time holding a U=U (Undetectable = Untransmittable) banner.

Bill believes that the most important thing when dealing with a chronic disease like HIV is to be able to reach out to your friends and family for support. **“Yes, I am physically alive and I am here. Mentally, the effects of being HIV positive go far beyond than taking a pill every day. Being HIV positive is so much more. I was afraid to let people know my secret; I have educated my family and will continue to do so.** I take care of my sister. I want people to know that we are all humans, we shed the same tears, and that stigma is greater than the diagnosis.”

## Shift

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- 4,300 direct service contacts through outreach and case management
  - 133 unique registered clients; 39 new client intakes
  - 16 testing clinics accessed by 82 people
  - 32 training sessions reaching 730 service providers
  - 93% of clients surveyed reported increased safety
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Shift’s Advisory Committee enhanced its role in informing our work throughout 2018 and 2019. The committee has brought to light the need for more community platforms where sex workers can come together in a safe space. This year, an indoor workers group was created to help indoor sex workers connect with their peers.

Many partnerships were strengthened in the past year. Our community partnership with Safeworks was further enriched through expansion to offer confidential testing, vaccinations and general health information at Shift’s location on the first and third Thursday of the month. These clinics were created in response to sex workers sharing their experience about the barriers they faced accessing health clinics due to stigma and discrimination. Shift clients report that this partnership has created a discrete, safe and non-judgmental space where they could address unmet health needs.

The Shifting Perspectives workshop builds the capacity and awareness of service providers and community members on the topics of sex work and harm reduction. This workshop expanded in 2018 to include the voice of a person sharing their lived experience in sex work.

The Shift outreach worker has connected with people on known sex work strolls, and through online platforms throughout the year. Shift’s outreach program provides harm reduction supplies, education and information to help increase health and safety for people engaged in sex work.







## Blake's Story: "I wish other people could see me for everything that I am"

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Blake was 24 years old when she started working as an escort. She was in the middle of a divorce and struggling to make ends meet with two small kids and a mortgage. Blake was going to school and the only jobs she was qualified for paid minimum wage.

Escorting was her survival option 10 years ago and turned out to be her career: "I've been in the industry for 11 years, I work for an agency, I have chosen this line of work for the flexibility of my own family," says Blake, adding that her kids are teenagers now and one of them just graduated high school. Her work has been a positive experience for her. It helped her when she was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis 12 years ago, because she didn't need to work full time to support herself and her family. "I like what I do and I wish I could feel proud of who I am and what I do. I am sometimes embarrassed to be an escort, even though I like my job. Not many people can say they've built what I have and survived hell and back along the way. Despite all my accomplishments, I still feel like a loser sometimes. Sometimes, I jokingly refer to myself as a "whore" or a "hooker" to try to re-claim these derogatory terms, but I often find myself thinking of myself as "just a whore."

Working for an escort agency gives Blake a sense of safety. She has tried to leave sex work, but felt depressed and isolated, so after a year she decided to come back. "I love my clients; they treat me better than anybody else. They have a greater respect for me than friends or boyfriends," Blake

says, explaining that she stopped telling people about what she does because of the stigma. Blake has only two friends that know about her work. "I pay my bills, I provide for my family, there is nothing wrong with me but everybody judges me because of my job. Sex work is work, no matter what people say."

Blake has recently built a business in the cannabis industry and is looking forward to opening her store. "I am stuck between who I am, who I want to be and who everybody thinks I should be. I know who I am and I know I am a good person, but everybody else judges me."

Blake comes to Shift every week - a place she finds safe and welcoming. "Instantly, I feel better. My case worker doesn't judge me. I am just a normal person to her. Shift is so important for people in this field. Nobody here would say "here's the hooker" when I come in. There are so many people who are doing this work with no help and nobody is watching them, nobody knows where and when they are going or coming back; that is scary to me." Shift helps her to feel safe and supported.

Advocating for people doing sex work is a priority for Blake. "Remember to be gentle with yourself, you're amazing," she says, adding that stigma surrounding the industry is what is most damaging. "Compassion and empathy go a long way," she says, wishing that people would be more open to educating themselves.

## Prevention and Education

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- 241,435 safer sex supplies distributed
  - 52 Capacity Building workshops delivered to 882 service providers
  - 100% of participants surveyed report being better prepared to talk about HIV
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The Prevention and Education team emphasizes using education as a means to prevent HIV transmission, reduce misinformation and stigma, and bring overall awareness to service providers and community members. Through our key population programs, the Prevention and Education team provides easy access to harm

reduction supplies and community resources while advocating and offering education opportunities.

This year, we have seen an increase in the number of participants attending service provider training. We also provided strategic direction through various collaborations locally, provincially, and nationally. The team provided input to various committees including Alberta Health Services' STBBI Operational Strategy and Action Plan, the Canadian HIV/AIDS Black, African and Caribbean ( CHABAC ) Network, Calgary Sexual Health Collaborative, the Alberta REACH Stigma Index and the Community Based Research Collaborative.

## Strong Voices

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- 58 unique registered clients accessing services
  - 228 outreach events reaching 818 contacts
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The Strong Voices program is a culturally-informed outreach and support program. The goal of the program is to ensure that Indigenous people who are at risk or affected by HIV have access to a continuum of holistic and culturally-based healing practices. The program has supported clients to move along a path of well-being, enhancing resiliency, and reduce the risk of HIV transmission. Strong Voices activities include cultural counselling, and access to Elders and traditional ceremony such as Sweatlodge. The program also facilitated opportunities for our clients to gather at a summer barbeque and supported hundreds of Indigenous adults and youths through

outreach activities in partnership with other organizations.

Strong Voices also provided HIV and stigma training to community members and Indigenous serving agencies and participated in various national and local events such as Calgary Wellness Walk, the Calgary Gear up event, and attended the Canadian Aboriginal AIDS Network conference.

The work of Strong Voices is informed by our Community Advisory Committee, who provide input and perspectives on the matters that impact Strong Voices. This committee is integral to planning our activities and services and creating a vision for the future directions of the Strong Voices program.

## HEAT

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- 91,649 safer sex supplies distributed
  - 329 contacts at education sessions
  - 1966 contacts in the community/online outreach
  - 197 contacts at HIV/STBBI testing clinics
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The HEAT program improves access to HIV prevention information and resources, tackles stigma to remove service barriers through partnerships and collaboration, and builds community capacity to better understand and respond to intersecting challenges that lead to increased HIV exposure among gay, bisexual and other men who have sex with men (MSM) in Calgary.

Over the past year, the HEAT Community Advisory Committee has provided strategic direction to the program and assisted in the development of new inserts to be included in condom packs related to PrEP and U=U. A new initiative, Sunday Tea Dances were held in partnership with Safeworks, CUPS, Twisted Element and members of our drag community, providing new testing options and community engagement. HEAT continues to build and strengthen partnerships and collaborations in research such as Sex Now Survey conducted at Calgary Pride 2018 to address the discriminatory blood ban placed on MSM. This advocacy work has created some positive change, as Health Canada has recently reduced the waiting period for men who have sex with men to give blood from 1 year to 3 months.

## Drumbeat

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- **799 contacts at HIV 101 education sessions**
  - **727 contacts at community outreach sessions**
  - **27,198 safer sex supplies distributed**
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Drumbeat helps to tackle stigma and remove barriers to accessing resources, addressing HIV in the African, Caribbean and Black (ACB) communities, and achieving better access to HIV testing and support services.

In 2018, the Drumbeat Advisory Committee updated our HIV awareness brochures in 6 different African languages. Drumbeat hosted five Brothers Chats - informal conversations with African men in various local barbershops. The program also held numerous social events such as In the African Kitchen, Under the Mango Tree, African Women on HIV and AIDS (AHOWA), and a Drumbeat Summer BBQ, continuing to create opportunities for community development and for ACB people to learn about HIV and reduce stigma.

This year, Drumbeat's work was recognized by the Alberta Council of Global Cooperation, and on International Women's Day the Drumbeat Program Coordinator was recognized for her positive impact in the community. Drumbeat also participates in local and national collaboratives, and has been co-chairing the CHABAC Network for the past year.



# Southeastern Alberta

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This year, the Medicine Hat office continued to strengthen and solidify our leadership in harm reduction work in the local community.

We changed locations! Until this year, the Medicine Hat office has operated out of a small, but very busy house. This year, our little home was sold, while our programs expanded to the point where we needed much more space. This opportunity for us to provide services out of a much larger space allows us to be more creative in our service delivery and to serve many more people.

This year we have supported our clients to access Naloxone, safer injection and other harm reduction supplies, referrals for basic needs, housing, addictions counselling, information and connection to treatment options, HIV and hepatitis C supports, mental health counselling and social isolation.

We also began conducting outreach once a week to clean needle debris in the community. By partnering with bylaw and police services, we have been able to reduce reliance on emergency services for needle debris response and to proactively address proper drug use debris collection and disposal. We have also provided sharps containers and education opportunities to the community on how to identify, collect and dispose of drug debris safely.

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- 2,840 contacts among 614 unique registered clients
  - 1,319 hours of direct client service provision
  - 32 outreach and education events reaching 1,081 people
  - 198,331 needles and 151 sharps containers distributed
  - 88% of clients surveyed reported receiving services to improve their health
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## Overdose Prevention Program

This year, we distributed over one thousand Naloxone kits. Every person who receives a kit is provided with education on how to prevent, recognize and respond to an overdose. The distribution of the Naloxone kits resulted in 120 overdose reversals in Medicine Hat reported to our organization. In addition to Naloxone kit distribution and education, our Overdose Prevention Educator also provides supports to pharmacies and other service providers in Medicine Hat and Brooks, helping to provide current context about the overdose crisis and prevent barriers for individuals who wish to access Naloxone kits.

## The Brooks Program

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- 14,580 condoms distributed
  - 119 outreach and education sessions
  - 91% of participants surveyed report intention to reduce risk behaviours for HIV
  - 8 service provider trainings were provided to 61 allied professionals
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Our Brooks program offers a variety of HIV prevention and education services with the goal of reducing stigma while increasing access to HIV education and preventative services. In this period, new partnerships have been established for service delivery with organizations such as the Brooks Junior High School, Brooks High School, AHS Addictions Services, the Brooks Foodbank and local businesses.





# Supervised Consumption Services

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The overdose crisis has continued to escalate at unprecedented rates throughout our country, affecting vulnerable individuals, families and communities. HIV Community Link has continued working to establish supervised consumption services and supports for people using substances in Medicine Hat and Calgary, while raising awareness and reducing stigma associated with drug use and addiction.

## SafeLink – Medicine Hat

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- Over 50 community engagement and Q&A sessions
- Over 6,000 postcards were distributed to residents and businesses about SCS

In the last three years, there have been 31 overdose deaths in Medicine Hat, a small community recently identified as having the fifth highest rate of hospitalization related to overdose in Canada for cities under 100,000. As the numbers escalate, the need for SCS in Medicine Hat has become increasingly apparent. HIV Community Link has worked diligently to plan services, taking part in an extensive consultation and engagement process.

To best direct services that fit within the local context, the Medicine Hat Coalition on Supervised Consumption (MHSCS) was formed. This multi-stakeholder group made of local leaders and experts provided critical direction in creating a needs assessment and facilitating public consultation. In the last year, over 50 engagement sessions, Q&A sessions, group presentations and meetings with municipal, provincial, and federal members of governance provided valuable information in selecting an appropriate location to operationalize services. Final steps are now underway to submit the completed exemption application to Health Canada, and renovations for the new site are expected to begin in 2019.

Our extensive partnership network has led to the development of an integrated care model for Medicine Hat SCS. This means when people access services in our community, not only are they monitored and treated for overdose, but they also have opportunities to access HIV and STI testing, immunizations, wound care, housing intake for individuals experiencing homelessness, increased access to opioid therapy, connections to other agencies and a variety of other low-barrier services aimed at reducing health inequities.

## StreetLink – Calgary

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- Over 400 people attended community engagement sessions
- More than 40 meetings were held to consult and inform stakeholders

Over the last year, StreetLink has been working to build new relationships in the community and strengthen existing partnerships. Building a strong community of practice and education surrounding HIV Community Link's supervised consumption services, both with community members and service providers, has been the main focus of the team.

The Calgary Coalition on Supervised Consumption (CCSC), co-chaired by HIV Community Link and Alberta Health Services has led a comprehensive community engagement process since 2017, after an exponential increase in opioid related overdose and overdose death in Alberta. The CCSC includes representatives from 19 organizations including the City of Calgary, the Calgary Police Service, the University of Calgary and numerous community-based organizations and service providers. Over 400 people attended community engagement opportunities and over 40 meetings were held to consult and inform stakeholders, including residents, elected officials, service providers, community associations and business representatives. 18,000 residents and businesses received postcards about supervised consumption services and their benefits to community.

As a result of this comprehensive engagement process and pending final approval from Health Canada, HIV Community Link plans to launch a supervised consumption mobile unit in Calgary that will offer a safe space for people who use substances and reduce overdose and overdose death, while also providing wraparound services such as supportive counselling, connections to housing programs and referrals to addiction and mental health treatment.

## Ian's Story

Ian is 29 years old and a student at Bow Valley College in the Addiction Studies Program. He grew up in a home where parents were struggling with their own health and addiction issues. Ian identifies that the most significant impact on his wellbeing is the sexual abuse he experienced at a friend's house when he was 5 years old. This traumatic experience started his lifelong battle with substance use. "My addictions started when I was still a kid. I started playing video games for hours on end, just to escape, just to be in any other world than this one," Ian explains.

Help came from his sister, who was older than Ian and who took care of him until she had to leave to go to college. He began to look for support in friends and through them had his first exposure to drugs. "I remember exactly how I got high for the first time. I drank alcohol and smoked marijuana on the same night. I was 13 years old and excited about my friend's birthday party. Prior to this, everywhere I went, I always had a feeling that I was less than everyone else, I was always on the outside looking in, always felt different, like I was not good enough. I thought that I would look cool and find acceptance by using but what I experienced was far more potent. Instead of the drugs making me fit in better, I didn't even care what people thought anymore. It gave me this freedom to breathe in my own skin for the first time. That was such a powerful attraction that I ran with it for a long time."

As a teenager, he was not thinking about consequences. There were no resources in his small B.C. community, so he ended up on an inpatient mental health unit in the hospital three times trying to deal with his childhood trauma and addiction.

Ian moved to Calgary when he was 17 to get treatment. His family also received counselling and support through this program, because his substance use affected them all. The treatment was a 12-step abstinence-based program that helped him stay away from using for 4 years. But when Ian relapsed, he lost all the support. "Everything that had meaning to me was taken away and I struggled for years with that rejection." Ian says he needed the human connection more than anything, "even though I used. I was not any less human." A downward spiral began and Ian became homeless. His family was still embracing the idea that they should not let him come back until he stops using drugs, and Ian tried hard to do that. "I went to detox 10 times, I was in treatment 6 times, I tried every centre that would take me, a lot of times I would detox on a couch, because I had used up all my chances with that

centre. I felt so defeated, I felt shame and guilt. I still had no idea that it all came back to that early childhood trauma, that rewired my brain." says Ian. Because of addiction, Ian lost his family, his job and his home.

Eventually, his family decided to try a different approach after reading a book about connection being the opposite of addiction, and the connection he was longing for returned. He was living on the streets and his parents would find him, pick him up and go to dinner or out to see a movie together. "That movie, those dates with my family kept me alive," says Ian. After a few months, he moved back home. His parents protected him from overdose as much as they could, even if that meant watching him inject. "There were no supervised consumption sites at this time, my family became my site, my mom would drive me to get drugs and I would use in front of her, so I wouldn't die. Almost every time I used, I would collapse and overdose from the fentanyl. They saved me and ultimately when I was ready, they were able to find me services" Ian says.

Now, Ian has been in recovery for over two years after having used hard drugs for most of his life. He is helping others, advocates for supervised consumption services and for people who use drugs. **"Using drugs doesn't make you any less human. These individuals need someone to talk to, they yearn for understanding and compassion"** Ian states.

Ian describes the trauma his family was exposed to in dealing with his multiple overdoses. He believes no family member should have to go through this and that supervised consumption helps to address the impact to families. He also describes the overwhelming immensity of the losses associated with the overdose crisis. He, himself, has lost his girlfriend and many friends to overdose.

Educating people about substance use is challenging, Ian thinks, because it is "hard to empathise with a trauma you haven't experienced. When people meet me and see that I am an intelligent, compassionate man. That I'm a A+ student, that I receive scholarships and I am trying to make a difference, it changes their minds. The next time you see an individual in active addiction, just imagine where they could be in five years if we keep them alive today. If we honoured their humanity and gave them a chance to recover. Supervised consumption might not be the solution to addiction, but it will keep them alive until they find one," Ian concludes.



# Community Relations

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## Volunteers

HIV Community Link continues to have a strong and vibrant group of volunteers who are always willing to help and provide a pillar of support to our programs and fundraising initiatives. Our volunteer group has increased in number and retention, through extended efforts of recruitment including onboarding at our events and booths. HIV Community Link also continues to engage long standing relationships with volunteer groups such as Pinups for a Cause, Youth Central and Chrysalis. We are thrilled to have the continued support of our Event and Advisory Committees, in addition to our Board of Directors who provide governance and vision to the organization. We are eternally grateful to all the volunteers who support HIV Community Link in various capacities, and look forward to adding more fresh new ways for communities to get involved with the organization.

## Communications and Media Relations

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This year, HIV Community Link continued to advocate for those living with and affected by HIV and hepatitis C through active engagement on social media, mainstream media and through events. We continue to raise awareness of issues surrounding HIV and hepatitis C, sex worker rights and overdose prevention issues. Thanks to our work in harm reduction, we have been called upon to provide information to newspapers, radio, and television both provincially and nationally.

In continuation of our work in supervised consumption services, HIV Community Link launched marketing materials, websites and online information to provide the public with accurate information about harm reduction and myth-busting facts.

A new initiative in this period was the launching of a marketing campaign for National Testing Day in Calgary and Southeastern Alberta. Nationally organized by the Canadian AIDS Society, the event featured several organizations offering free rapid HIV testing across Calgary. Our event championed by the Prevention and Education team was attended by government officials and community members, making this national testing day a success.

## Events

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HIV Community Link's events have continued to grow and evolve. These signature events have been attended by government officials, guests, donors and talented volunteers supporting our efforts to raise awareness and funds for our cause.

In 2018, we revamped our events to include a themed Splash of Red -Masquerade Gala that raised \$71,962 to support the agency. The Calgary AIDS Walk & Run was a huge success as well, with a total fundraising effort of \$66,418 in 2018.

This year, many of our staff participated in our First Time in Drag event to fundraise for the Calgary AIDS Walk & Run. With the support of our friends at Twisted Element and local drag queens, our staff rehearsed and performed drag numbers to the delight of a captivated audience of friends. This year we celebrated the 30th anniversary of World AIDS Day with our traditional Community Voices event, held at the Hyatt. This event was well attended and kept our guests entertained with a silent auction, stories from people living with HIV and musical entertainment by Calgary Men's Choir, along with a special performance of Rent, by Front Row Centre Theatre. We also unveiled a special tribute art piece at that event in honour of the 30th anniversary of that day, currently on display in our client space.

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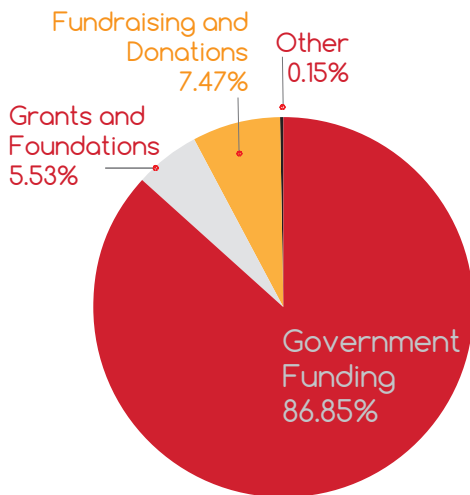
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 Sheryl Adam  
 Southern Alberta Clinic

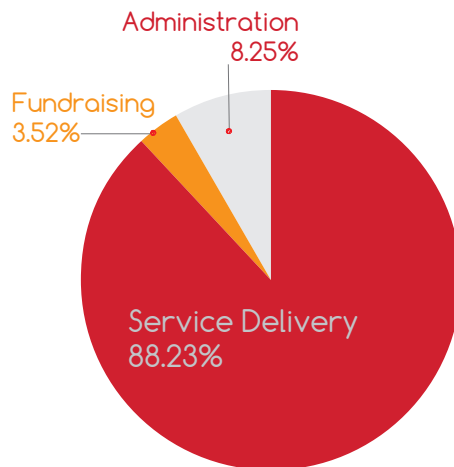
Stephanie McLean  
 Susan Ash-Phillips  
 Tara Smith  
 Terry MacKenzie  
 Tetranex Solutions Inc.  
 Tom Langford  
 Trevor Floer  
 Trevor Rempel  
 Trudy Kroschinsky  
 United Way - Greater Toronto  
 United Way (Donors Choice)

## Financials

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**TOTAL REVENUE:**  
**\$2,736,494**



**TOTAL EXPENSES:**  
**\$2,673,263**

### List of Funders

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Alberta Community HIV Fund  
 Alberta Community Council on HIV  
 Alberta Health  
 Alberta Community and Social Supports  
 Government of Alberta – Summer Temporary Employment Program  
 Government of Canada – Canada Summer Jobs  
 Public Health Agency of Canada  
 The Calgary Foundation  
 The City of Calgary, Crime Prevention Investment Plan  
 The City of Calgary, Emergency Resiliency Fund  
 The City of Calgary, Family and Community Support Services  
 United Way of Calgary & Area

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HIV Community Link promotes wellness for individuals and communities affected by HIV and hepatitis C through prevention, education and support.

Our vision is: Empowering choices. Engaging Communities. Ending transmission.

### CALGARY

Phone: (403) 508-2500 or 1 (877) 440-2437 (toll free)  
Fax: (403) 263-7358  
Address: 110 – 1603 10 Ave SW, Calgary AB, T3C 0J7

### MEDICINE HAT

Phone: (403) 527-5882  
Address: 641 4th Street SE Medicine Hat

### BROOKS

Phone: (403) 376-6020  
Address: PO Box 331, Brooks, AB, T1R 1B4

[www.hivcl.org](http://www.hivcl.org)



[info@hivcl.org](mailto:info@hivcl.org)



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