

# Family & Children's Services of St. Thomas and Elgin

# ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

## June 14, 2017

### President's and Executive Director's Annual Report for 2016 / 2017

This past year has been a fast paced, ever changing transition both within the agency and the Child Welfare sector as a whole. All along, the staff, management, senior managers and Board has retained a keen focus on what we do best: looking after the safety, wellbeing and permanence of children and youth. Our service model speaks for itself and our outcomes continue to denote that we strive for excellence in the delivery of child welfare services in the community.

During this past year, we have continually improved the outcomes in all key measures that we are held accountable to deliver on, confirming that FACS is amongst the leaders in the sector.

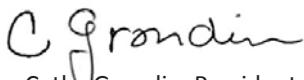
On October 24<sup>th</sup>, 2017 the agency went live onto the Ministry's new Child Welfare Information Network (CPIN). Deploying, implementing and sustaining CPIN at the agency level is a monumental step for the organization which involves significant contributions of staff time, energy and resources. We performed beyond our own expectations in successfully landing CPIN in the agency.

Agency staff are key partners both locally and regionally in strengthening our work with community agencies, associations and committees. We have representation at planning tables which address issues such as poverty, health, service system reengineering, education, mental health and addictions to name a few. This past year has also marked the agency's demonstrated commitment to improving the lives and service delivery to the Indigenous children, youth, families and communities that we serve.

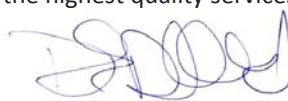
Lastly, the staff, management, senior managers and the Board of Directors has worked very diligently at creating and designing a new 3-year strategic plan along with a refresh of the agency logo. The new strategic directions will help anchor us in what is most important in every decision, action and planning that we do at the agency: keeping children and youth at the centre of all that we do!

We will **Lead the Way**, we will **Do the Right Thing**, we will **Walk Along Side**, the children, youth, families and community, and we will commit to **The Journey Together** with Indigenous children, youth, families and communities.

We look forward to embracing the new challenges ahead and do so with confidence that the staff, management and Board of Directors will continue to: be accountable, be good stewards of our resources, provide the highest quality services, keep children and youth at the centre of our work in collaboration with families and the community.



Cathy Grondin, President of the Board



Derrick Drouillard, Executive Director

### Elgin Children's Foundation

The Elgin Children's Foundation is pleased to report on its activities in the past year. Now having been in existence for over 20 years as an incorporated body, the Foundation continues to support services and programs at Family and Children's Services where government funding is not available or insufficient. In 2016, the Foundation provided over \$35,000 to support a number of clients and services at FACS.

We recently completed a strategic planning process to seek out areas where we can be of greater assistance to FACS in future years. The foundation continues to fund the Food Security Program and the Holiday Star sponsorship program for youth in independent living.

Many families in Elgin and Middlesex have received the S.A.F.E. parenting booklet, providing parents of young children with information about positive parenting and discipline practices that are safer and more effective than physical punishment, published with Foundation funding.

As well, in 2016;

**83 children and youth** were sent to summer camp.

**2 former youth in care** attending college and university received bursaries.

**50 youth in extended care** received funds to help them in independent living.

**8 youth in care** were presented with achievement awards.

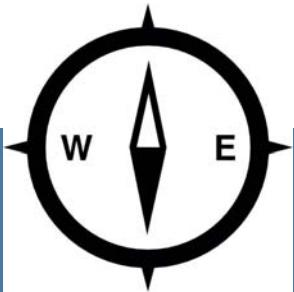
**1 youth in care** was presented with a youth leadership award.

The Foundation remains a proud partner with Family and Children's Services in promoting stronger families and safer children and youth in Elgin County.

The Foundation has revitalized its website and we urge you to visit us at [www.childrensfoundation.on.ca](http://www.childrensfoundation.on.ca).

*An Investment in the future of our community*

# 2017-2020 FACS Elgin Strategic Plan



Pursue innovation and excellence in service delivery

Provide leadership and partnership to sector priorities

Change the face of Family and Children's Services in the community

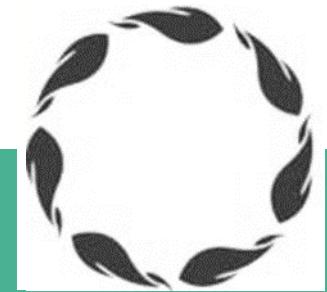
Influence leading practices in family-based care



Engage families, children and youth as partners

Be a leader in anti-oppressive practice

Ensure children, youth and families are connected to the services they need



Understand our role in the truth and reconciliation journey of the First Nations, Metis, and Inuit (FNMI) community

Engage with First Nations, Metis, Inuit (FNMI) community in a culturally responsive way



Provide an excellent service user experience

Improve life outcomes for children and youth

Be a great place to work

# BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2016-2017



*Left to Right:* Geoff Gosse, Cheryl Fish, Jennifer Paul-O'Donnell (Past President), Katharine Enns, Cathy Grondin (President), Tonya Sheldon (Treasurer), Tracy Grant (Secretary), Derrick Drouillard (Executive Director), Dan Weagant (Vice President), Kate Underhill, Sylvia Thomas.  
*Not in photograph:* Andrew Crewdson, Christopher Paul

## FAMILY & CHILDREN'S SERVICES STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2017

### REVENUES

Ministry subsidies	\$12,673,717	94.7%
Children's special allowance	330,960	2.5%
Maintenance - other societies	172,972	1.3%
Rental Income	100,000	0.7%
Other income and recoveries	99,544	0.7%
Maintenance agreements	4,308	0.0%
<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>	<b>\$13,381,501</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

### EXPENSES

Direct Service Expenses		
Salaries and wages	\$ 7,147,940	51.1%
Boarding rate payments	2,599,378	18.6%
Employee benefits	1,709,421	12.2%
Clients' personal needs	663,665	4.7%
Travel	396,806	2.8%
Health related expenses	175,927	1.3%
Purchased services - client related	105,777	0.8%
Training and recruitment	43,769	0.3%
Program expense	7,111	0.1%
<b>Total Direct Service Expenses</b>	<b>\$12,849,794</b>	<b>91.8%</b>

Administrative Expenses		
Building occupancy	460,504	3.3%
Technology	252,044	1.8%
Office administration	210,394	1.5%
Miscellaneous	123,843	0.9%
Purchased services - non-client related	95,822	0.7%
Promotion and publicity	4,069	0.0%
<b>Total Administrative Expenses</b>	<b>\$1,146,676</b>	<b>8.2%</b>

<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ 13,996,470</b>	<b>100.0%</b>
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<b>Deficit Year Ended March 31, 2017</b>	<b>(\$614,969)</b>
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<b>Balanced Budget Fund Draw</b>	<b>\$614,969</b>
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<b>SURPLUS (DEFICIT) AFTER BALANCED BUDGET FUND DRAW</b>	<b>\$0</b>
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## Youth In Care Executive

The Youth in Care Executive Committee encourages youth to have a say in the programming and decisions that affect them. We currently have five active members and two Youth in Transitions workers that meet on a monthly basis over a meal to discuss monthly activities, provincial initiatives and upcoming training opportunities.

We are proud to be a part of provincial activities and advocacy, and encourage our youth to get involved in things that affect them. Recent events include a Leadership Program at Canada's Wonderland and joining over 100 youth from across Ontario in our annual trip to Queen's Park, Toronto, where we celebrate Children and Youth in Care Day.

At home we joined forces with Oxford CAS and celebrated Child and Youth in Care Day "Elgin Style". We invited slam poetry guru Holly Painter, feasted on the ever popular "Walking Tacos" and Oxford distributed swag bags and t-shirts. It was a full house and we look forward to planning for next year.

Other activities we have planned include Paint Night at the Elgin St Thomas Art Centre, Movie Nights, Friday Nights at the YMCA and we are very excited about our BIG trip in July to the Toronto Zoo.

We look forward to advancing our Youth Engagement Practices and we have an eager group of youth on board who want to give back to their community.

If you have an interest in this committee, please contact Heather Snow at [hsnow@caselgin.on.ca](mailto:hsnow@caselgin.on.ca) or Tabitha MacArthur at [Tmacarthur@caselgin.on.ca](mailto:Tmacarthur@caselgin.on.ca).

## Finding Home

She finally understands her purpose in life

After all those years

In different places

With different rules

And brand new faces.

She now knows what it's like to feel alive

To no longer feel dead inside.

She has felt the pain of a thousand knives

To be thrown away so many times.

To lose the battle of her demons in her head

To be so upset not wanting to get out of bed.

But through all this

She has grown

She has found a place

That she can call home

Brittany