

Childhood Connections

Okanagan Family & Childcare Society

ANNUAL REPORT 2024-2025



DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

The 2024–2025 year has been one of new beginnings and exciting transformation for Childhood Connections. This year, we reimagined our family resource centre, giving it a fresh name, new life, and renewed purpose as The Strong Roots Centre. While the building itself isn't new, the heart behind it has grown stronger than ever. The renovations and rebranding reflect who we are today. We are a community hub that continues to evolve alongside the children, youth and families we serve.

The Strong Roots Centre is more than a name change. It represents a deepened commitment to supporting children, youth and families across the Okanagan with wraparound services that make a real difference in their lives. From mental health supports and parenting programs to youth engagement and family connection opportunities, we are creating a welcoming place where everyone can find the help, encouragement, and sense of belonging they deserve.

This past year reminded us that growth often comes through change. Our service delivery has evolved, but our commitment to this community has only become stronger. We have chosen not to focus on what was, but on what can be. We are looking forward with optimism, knowing that each step we take strengthens our ability to serve those who need us most.

Our staff and team have truly embodied that spirit. Their compassion, resilience, and unwavering dedication continue to inspire me. They have embraced change with open hearts, always keeping our mission at the center of their work. I am deeply grateful for their energy and the care they bring to every child, youth and family who walks through our doors.

As we move toward celebrating 50 years of service in 2027, I want to thank our community, partners, and supporters for standing beside us through this time of renewal. Your trust, encouragement, and shared belief in what we do have made this transformation possible. Together, we are planting the seeds for a stronger future.

The future is bright at The Strong Roots Centre. With deep roots and open hearts, we look forward to continuing this journey of supporting, connecting, and growing alongside children, youth and families of the Okanagan.



TIM ROPCHAN
Executive Director





PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

HRVY

Launched at The Strong Roots Centre on September 1, 2024, HRVY Services has already supported 28 youth and their families in accessing vital wrap-around services. HRVY Services is delivered in partnership with School District 23 and the City of Kelowna. Building on their existing programming and key research that informed the shift in services, this collaborative model strengthens our ability to support youth and families with evidence-based, community-driven solutions.

Our core supports include:

- Personalized 1:1 youth worker matching
- Individual and family preservation counselling
- Food security assistance
- Pro-social recreational and skill-building activities
-

Impact Highlights

Youth participating in HRVY Services have reported meaningful improvements:

- 88% feel more confident in themselves
- 75% experienced improved peer relationships
- 88% demonstrated improved school attendance
- 100% feel a true sense of belonging at Strong Roots

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Family Resource Program

Our Family Resource Program reached over 7,300 individuals through our events, programming, community kitchen, and classes.

From 2024–2025, the program achieved the following:

- 80% of programs were barrier-free and open to the public.
- 90% of participants reported a stronger sense of community and increased confidence to attend other events and programs.
- We successfully expanded five new programs in the community, supporting families, children, and youth.



PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Drop-in Childcare Program

Our Drop-in Childcare Program continues to provide a safe, nurturing, and engaging environment for children from 18 months to 5 years old, supporting families across our community.

In the past year from 2024-2025 the program has:

- Welcomed 110 new children, offering flexible care options for families
- Drop-In Childcare Centre won Gold for Best of Kelowna “**Best Daycare 2024**”
- Partnered with Strong Pilates to allow community members to have reliable childcare option for their children while they participate in a Pilates class





PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Childminding Program

Childminding continues to provide safe, supportive and flexible care for children ages 0 to 12 years old, allowing parents to participate fully in community programs, workshops, meetings and events.

This past year from 2024-2025, our childminding team has provided over 115 hours of care to children while families participate in various workshops and training events. Whether it was on-site at our location or elsewhere our team prepared and set up age-appropriate activities and crafts to engage with the children.

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS 2024/2025

Nourish Families

Providing Free Meals to Families



FUNDERS + PARTNERS

Generous Funders



Dedicated Partners

- BGC-Okanagan
- Central Okanagan Public Schools (SD23)
- Crossroads Collective
- District of Peachland
- Family Connections Centre
- Family Support Institute of BC
- Food Forward
- Helen's Acres
- Global Fitness
- Interior Health
- KCR - Community Resources
- Karis Support Society
- Ki-Low-Na Friendship Society
- Mamas for Mamas
- Metis Community Services
- Okanagan College
- Okanagan Nation Alliance
- Okanagan Regional Library
- Now Canada
- Project Literacy
- Purppl
- Regional District of the Central Okanagan
- Relvas Catering
- Sportball Okanagan
- Starbright - Children's Development Centre
- Strong Pilates
- Suxkenxitelxklcecamala
- The Bridge Youth & Family Services
- United Way - BC
- Westbank First Nation
- YMCA of the Okanagan

Our mission is to create meaningful bonds between families and the crucial resources that enable children to thrive. These connections involve linking families with dependable childcare providers, cultivating partnerships with community stakeholders and agencies, ensuring access to high-quality programs, and offering a comprehensive range of support services.



FINANCIAL OVERVIEW



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Compilation Engagement Report

To Management of Childhood Connections - Okanagan Family & Childcare Society

On the basis of information provided by management, we have compiled the statement of financial position of Childhood Connections - Okanagan Family & Childcare Society as at March 31, 2025 and the statement of operations and net assets for the year then ended, and Note 1, which describes the basis of accounting applied in the preparation of the compiled financial information (the financial information).

Management is responsible for the accompanying financial information, including the accuracy and completeness of the underlying information used to compile it and the selection of the basis of accounting.

We performed this engagement in accordance with Canadian Standard on Related Services (CSRS) 4200, *Compilation Engagements*, which requires us to comply with relevant ethical requirements. Our responsibility is to assist management in the preparation of the financial information.

We did not perform an audit engagement or a review engagement, nor were we required to perform procedures to verify the accuracy or completeness of the information provided by management. Accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion or a review conclusion, or provide any form of assurance on the financial information.

Readers are cautioned that the financial information may not be appropriate for their purposes.

BDO Canada LLP

Chartered Professional Accountants

Kelowna, British Columbia
September 25, 2025



FINANCIAL OVERVIEW



Childhood Connections - Okanagan Family & Childcare Society Statement of Operations

For the year ended March 31

2025

2024

Revenue

Ministry of Children and Families	\$ 30,846	\$ 407,967
City of Kelowna	413,383	-
Community daycare fees	139,125	218,435
Rental income	9,144	38,889
Nourish meal sales	14,436	14,210
Gaming funding	71,000	85,000
United Way	-	15,000
Interest income	2,197	1,429
Other funding	111,074	64,672
Fees and other	18,240	12,080
Workshops	14,437	22,124
Amortization of deferred capital contribution	10,741	10,741
	<u>834,623</u>	<u>890,547</u>

Operating expenses

Advertising and promotion	1,555	2,333
Amortization	52,574	35,111
Computer	9,864	4,531
Contract services	52,641	8,826
Food	14,397	14,448
Insurance	6,756	6,124
Interest	6,592	19,916
Office and program supplies	49,296	42,605
Professional development	7,412	1,096
Professional fees	13,817	14,311
Rent	95,529	113,015
Repairs and maintenance	15,047	15,115
Telephone	5,402	5,578
Travel and seminars	5,271	972
Utilities	7,643	8,448
Wages and benefits	456,479	558,662
Workshops	1,905	22,260
	<u>802,180</u>	<u>873,351</u>

Income before other income

32,443 17,196

Other income

Gain on disposal of asset	550,424	-
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Net income

\$ 582,867 \$ 17,196



The Strong Roots Centre

Childhood Connections



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www.childhoodconnections.ca