



ANNUAL REPORT 2022-2023



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Charitable Registration 133974949 RR0001

SFP runs **Family Resource Programs (FRPs)**. We operate parent/child interactive drop-ins for families with babies and young children. Additionally we offer parent participation recreational programming for families with multiage children ranging from birth to the teen years. Our programs reflect the diversity of the community, and services are designed to strengthen parenting skills, provide stimulating environments for children, and promote full family and community engagement.

The FRP trauma-informed model is based on a comprehensive network of prevention, early intervention, and family supports, connecting thousands of BC families, particularly vulnerable families, every year to relevant programs and services. Services are geared to meet the individual needs of the family and all families are welcome!





LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

As we come together for this exciting Annual General Meeting, I am filled with immense pride and gratitude for what we've accomplished at Semiahmoo Family Place this past year.

Since our humble beginnings in 1991, SFP has grown from a volunteer-driven initiative to an organization with dedicated staff and a dynamic Board of Directors. This journey of growth and transformation truly reflects the spirit of our community. In 2011, we found our home in the historic Kensington Prairie Community Centre, a milestone that marked our commitment to creating a nurturing environment for children and their caregivers. The recent pandemic posed unprecedented challenges, pushing us to the brink of closing our doors for good.

However, it was the remarkable leadership of our new Executive Director, Alyssa Roberts, that turned our fortunes around. Alyssa's exceptional skills in community building, fundraising, and her overall vision have been instrumental in transforming SFP from an organization on the edge of extinction to a thriving beacon of hope. Alyssa, on behalf of the board, staff, and the families we serve, I extend our deepest thanks for your dedication and extraordinary efforts.

I'd also like to express my heartfelt gratitude to my fellow board members, Sandy, Maria, and Shay, for their unwavering support and commitment. Together, we have built a stronger foundation for SFP to serve our families. A special thank you to our devoted staff, Gigi, Maria, Emilia, and Nelson, whose love and support over the years have touched the lives of many.

Lastly, but certainly not least, I would like to thank our various donors, volunteers, and families who have given back to SFP this past year. Without you, we simply would not be standing here today.

As I step down from the role of President, I look back on our achievements with immense pride. Yet, it's the future of SFP that fills me with the most hope and confidence. With a solid team and leadership in place, I have no doubt that SFP will continue to flourish and impact lives positively.

Thank you all for being part of this extraordinary journey. Let's keep nurturing and supporting our community with the same passion and dedication that has always defined us. Here's to a future filled with more achievements and impactful service..

Chris Bulich
Exiting Board President



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Dear Semiahmoo Family Place Community -
Participants, Staff, Contractors, Stakeholders,
and Society Members:

It is with great pleasure and enthusiasm that I share with you the remarkable progress and developments that Semiahmoo Family Place has experienced over the past 8 months under my tenure as the new Executive Director. Our commitment to supporting families in South Surrey and White Rock has led to the implementation of various initiatives aimed at fostering community, well-being, and inclusivity.

I am grateful to be leading such a dynamic, talented group of Facilitators, who genuinely care about the community they serve. I am reminded that Nelson the Music Man has captivated audiences for 20+ years within SFP programming and is an integral part of the fabric of our community. Our Facilitators have wisdom, empathy and compassion and are loyal, trustworthy individuals. They all have amazing creative abilities and are able to bring fun and innovation to all the activities they create for our community and they act as a supportive team for all.

Over the past year we have enjoyed thousands of visits from our child and parent participants. From the beginning of my term as ED we have seen tremendous growth in participation with many of our programs doubling in attendance and this is only increasing with the vast range of activities and new programs we are building into the fabric of support for our community.



Opening our second location this Spring will offer new opportunities for families to easily access us on public transportation on two days a week and we hope to offer more in the future as funding allows.

1. Enriching Daily Activities and Special Events: We have significantly expanded our daily activities, crafts, and special events, offering a diverse range of programs for families. Our monthly calendar, posted on social media and our website, highlights engaging activities such as librarian visits, dental hygiene sessions, La Leche League breastfeeding support, nutritionist presentations, multicultural sharing circles, and more. This vibrant mix of activities aims to cater to the diverse needs and interests of our community members. Through our increased planning, preparation and online social marketing of our new events, we have seen a significant increase in our program attendance.

2. Community Pantry for Families in Need: In response to the new challenges posed by poverty in our community, we have established a Community Pantry. This initiative, supported by donations from local businesses, including supermarkets, provides free long-life shelf food goods and toiletries to families facing economic hardships. We are grateful for the generosity of businesses like Cobs and Starbucks, which contribute bread and coffee/snacks to support our participants during programs.

3. Increased Community Support: As the Executive Director it is one of my main objectives to increase community awareness of our programs and to invite new stakeholders to participate with us in serving children and families in the community by funding our current and new initiatives.

I was recently honoured to present SFP's vital work with children and families and to explain our vision for growth with new programs to meet the needs of our communities' families at the White Rock Rotary Club, on November 14th 2023. Our work in the community has been received with enthusiasm and The Rotary Club has shown interest in supporting our vision, which we are now exploring together!

We are ever grateful for these generous contributions which demonstrate the collective commitment of our stakeholders to the well-being of our community and the families we serve: \$39,500 from BC Gaming Community Grants. Also, Choices Markets has kindly continued to support us through its Star of the Season campaign and also by donating gift baskets to 12 SFP families in need. We look forward to working with them in partnership this Winter 2023 season again with both of these efforts!



Other notable donations include:

- Free rent from Alex House/City of Surrey
- \$5,000 from Amy Dewaele Realty
- \$4,000 Choices Markets (Star of Season campaign)
- \$2,500 Miramar Village Dental
- \$2,500 Granmercy Developments
- \$1,000 Starbucks Community Grant - Ocean Park (via The Vancouver Foundation)
- \$500 Prospera Credit Union
- \$300 White Rock Legion

4. Creative Cottage Pilot Project: To enhance the creative and performing arts opportunities for families with multi-age children, we launched a pilot of the Creative Cottage drop-in program on Fridays from 11am-1pm. Currently preparing for its first production, "Merrymakers," Creative Cottage aims to provide a space for families to enjoy and participate in the performing arts (including acting, singing and dancing.) We hope to go much further with Creative Cottage and are applying for funding streams to assist us with this goal.

5. Family Wellness Program: Thanks to the generous funding of \$32,000 from the Peace Arch Hospital Foundation, we are excited to launch our new program, Family Wellness. This initiative will offer recreational activities designed to enhance the physical and mental well-being of families with multi-age children in our community.

6. Collaborative Partnerships: Gary Thandi (Moving Forward) and I have been planning a partnership within the Family Wellness program (starting this January 2024) where his organization can provide our participants with free or low cost counselling sessions and/or group play/art therapeutic activities. We are arranging practicums for University students in Therapeutic Arts/mental health/sports coaching to help within our Family Wellness programming.



I was able to present a learning circle to the South Surrey/ White Rock Family Practice and we have been in regular communication with clinicians since to plan pro-bono visits with their families in need. This is another opportunity for SFP to co-refer in partnership with an essential service to families. It was my honour to accept an invitation to join the Children & Families table in South Surrey/White Rock, which will allow ease of collaboration with essential community services and partners such as Alex House, MCFD, Surrey Police, Surrey Libraries, UNITY, Sources, and Options in planning for the future of children and family services. Additionally, I've joined (as SFP's ED and representative) with the South Surrey/White Rock Local Mental Health Hub initiative TWIG (Together mental Wellness Innovation Group) which focuses on developing programs and services for mental wellness (preventative mental health) for families in our community, aligning our organizations beautifully.

7. Board Strengthening: To ensure the continued success of Semiahmoo Family Place, we are in the process of recruiting a group of professionals with diverse experience, education, and expertise. These board member candidates will be presented for a vote at the Annual General Meeting on November 25, 2023 at Kensington Prairie Community Centre. Many thanks to our incumbent Board Members with special mention of exiting President Chris Bulich and exiting Secretary Shay Bulich for their hard work serving SFP over the past three years!

8. Future Initiatives: Looking ahead, we are working towards establishing a Caregiver Support Program in collaboration with Soroptimist in the coming year, further expanding our efforts to support the well-being of caregivers (and thus families) in our community. Our Family Wellness program (hugely supported by Peace Arch Hospital Foundation) will be a wonderful opportunity to work with families with multiple age children to enhance their physical and mental well-being. We will be piloting this project at both our current location (Kensington Prairie Community Centre) and at our new second location in January (White Rock Baptist) which is centrally located at the edge of White Rock and easily accessible by public transportation. Our KP location has been difficult for families with one vehicle (often with the working parent) to access on weekdays so we have started a request to have public transportation brought to this location.

We are also starting a Saturday program at KP that will be accessible to Mon-Fri two parent working families for both Family Place and Family Wellness programming (gym and activity room.) In conclusion, the past eight months have been filled with growth, collaboration, and the implementation of impactful programs. We are grateful for the ongoing support from our participants, stakeholders, and society members. Together, we will continue to build a stronger, more vibrant community at Semiahmoo Family Place.

Thank you all for your dedication and commitment to the well-being of our community.



Sincerely,

Alyssa Roberts
Executive Director - Semiahmoo Family Place



PEACE ARCH
HOSPITAL
FOUNDATION



AMY
DEWAELE
REAL ESTATE



PROGRAM IMPACT

Family Place served 1445 caregivers and 1956 children

Family Place, our flagship program, was open 5 days a week, throughout the year, usually four hours per day. Family Place is a strength based program that offers drop-in activities and free play for children (0-6yrs) and caregivers and is open to all families across our communities. As there is no stigma associated with attending this program, we find that we receive families with all sorts of challenges and our trained facilitators are able to provide referrals to other specific services including everything from child development to postpartum depression and more. We also help provide amazing activities in our programs that are available to all families regardless of their financial situation. As well as this we hear from families regularly how much they love meeting other families and getting to know our staff. Our programs fight against social isolation.

Baby Place supported 386 caregivers and 402 babies

Baby Place provides new parents/carers with a dedicated time to enjoy age-appropriate activities, including songs from our famous Music Man!

Healthy Families kept at least 275 adults and 372 children moving

Once a week for the majority of the year we organized games and activities in the Kensington Prairie Gym for carers and children to move, be active, and stay healthy.

Community Outreach: Four families received Christmas Hampers

As usual we held our annual Joy of Giving campaign, wherein we request and collect donations of unwrapped gifts to include in hampers of fresh produce and groceries, donated by Choices Markets. SFP collects the donations, pick up food supplies, sort and pack them, and deliver to chosen families in need. Four families were selected to receive gifts. This testimonial emailed to us sums up the gratitude from the community:

"Words can't describe the overwhelming gratefulness I feel right now after receiving this hamper from you all. I'm amazed and shocked at the amount of beautiful food and health products given to us. Thank you for your generosity. Thank you to all who took time to donate and put together everything. Honestly this blessing brings me to tears. All the kids vitamins for my daughter, the vitamin c packs, the healthy snacks, so amazing and so wonderful! I'm so thankful. Thank you all and thank you for all you do for those in our community. God bless you!"

SEMAHMOO FAMILY PLACE ASSOCIATION
Statement of Revenues and Expenditures
Year Ended June 30, 2023

	2023	2022
REVENUES		
Program Donations	\$ 16,417	\$ 10,800
Provincial Funding Grants	37,500	12,417
Other Income	6,283	197
	60,200	23,414
EXPENSES		
General Supplies & Expenses	2,756	1,034
Insurance	1,968	2,300
Occupancy Costs	-	7,681
Professional fees	2,207	4,173
Salary and Contract Fees	69,453	37,733
Supplies	591	1,641
	76,975	54,562
DEFICIENCY OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES	\$ (16,775)	\$ (31,148)

SEMAHMOO FAMILY PLACE ASSOCIATION
Statement of Changes in Net Assets
Year Ended June 30, 2023

	General Fund	Capital Asset Fund	2023	2022
NET ASSETS - BEGINNING OF YEAR	\$ 34,807	\$ -	\$ 34,807	\$ 65,955
DEFICIENCY OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES	(16,775)	-	(16,775)	(31,148)
NET ASSETS - END OF YEAR	\$ 18,032	\$ -	\$ 18,032	\$ 34,807

SEMAHMOO FAMILY PLACE ASSOCIATION
Statement of Financial Position
June 30, 2023

	2023	2022
ASSETS		
CURRENT		
Cash	\$ 59,472	\$ 74,305
Goods and services tax recoverable	381	319
Prepaid expenses	934	1,034
	\$ 60,787	\$ 75,658
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
CURRENT		
Employee deductions payable	\$ 2,755	\$ 851
LONG TERM DEBT	40,000	40,000
	42,755	40,851
NET ASSETS	18,032	34,807
	\$ 60,787	\$ 75,658

CONNECT WITH US

Volunteer

Whether you'd like to be in the play space, behind the scenes, join us often or just for special events, there are opportunities for everyone to be involved with their local family place. Visit our website or email ed@semiahmoofamilyplace.com to let us know how you'd like to help.

Donate

You can help Semiahmoo Family Place continue to connect families through play in a safe, respectful, family-centred environment where parents, caregivers and children can find support, resources, and new relationships. Give online or at SFP, receive a tax receipt, and discover the benefits of support.

Subscribe

The SFP newsletter provides parent education, child development, and early years learning information as well as upcoming, local, family-friendly events and activities. Sign up today at semiahmoofamilyplace.com.

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