

## Core Values

**We value** and promote respect for diversity of culture and experience.

**We actively respond** to unmet, emerging and changing community needs by reaching out to underserved groups and by sharing our expertise and knowledge with other organizations.

**We strive to eliminate barriers** to access by offering affordable, community based programs that encourage and support the participation of those most in need.

**We provide quality childcare** that enables women to participate and, at the same time, provides a positive experience for children.

**We promote personal growth** and development and assist participants to articulate and achieve their goals and to find strength, support and friendship.

**We provide staff** with support and opportunities for professional development and growth.

**We value the contributions** of volunteers and provide the training and support necessary to enable them to be effective in their roles.

**We demonstrate our accountability** to the community through fiscal responsibility, open and full disclosure, and meaningful, ongoing evaluation of our programs and services.

## Mission Statement

The goal of PIRS is to ensure that immigrant women and their young children can participate fully in Canadian community life.



**We welcome immigrant women of all ages, from all cultural, social, economic and educational backgrounds. For more information about our programs, to become a member or make a donation please call**

**604-298-5888.**



# Annual Report 2013-2014



**A United Way Member Agency**



**1874 Kingsway, Vancouver, BC V5N 2S7**  
**Web: <http://www.pirs.bc.ca> email: [info@pirs.bc.ca](mailto:info@pirs.bc.ca)**  
**Tel. 604-298-5888 Fax: 604-298-7115**

## Report from the Board and Executive Director

The PIRS board and staff faced some significant challenges in 2013-14 but we are happy to report that we end the year with a renewed commitment to the mandate and the mission of the organization .

We were hugely disappointed that our proposal to CIC for funding was unsuccessful, resulting in the closure of our ELSA programs in March 2014 and the need to take decisive measures to deal with a budgetary deficit. These measures included making cuts to core staff: we have reduced the number positions from 7 to 4, and the number of FTEs (full time equivalents) from 6.6 to 3.6. As a result of this restructuring, the functions of the Volunteer Coordinator and ESL Coordinator have been assumed by the Children's Program Coordinator and the Community/Settlement Program Coordinator and all core staff have taken on additional administrative duties. We also gave notice to our landlord that we intended to vacate our office premises on East Hastings at the end of August and are pleased report that we have secured new office space on Kingsway near Victoria Drive at a considerable cost saving.

Thanks to continuing support from our funders - City of Vancouver, United Way, BC Direct Access Gaming, Health Canada, some funds from Citizenship and Immigration Canada and DECODA - there were no significant cuts to programs other than ELSA. We also extend a huge thanks to our program partners - MOSAIC, SUCCESS, Vancouver School Board, Mount Pleasant, South Vancouver, Collingwood and Cedar Cottage Neighborhood Houses, South Vancouver Family Place, Quaker House and the Children's Foundation.

Our former Executive Director, Jean Maloney, returned to PIRS in an interim capacity in May 2014 to assist the board and staff to implement the difficult decisions taken by the board. To Jean we extend our warmest and heartiest thank you for her knowledge and lifelong passion for the work of PIRS. Our ability to carry on without interruption to our core programs is testament to the incredible commitment of our staff and volunteers in particular core staff members Greta Ho, Lupita Boris, Nubia Mancilla and Tara Qui. We thank them, and our excellent program staff, for their commitment and dedication.

We also thank departing core staff members Liza Wajong and Phyllis Kuo for their contributions. Many thanks as well to board members Heather Kennedy, who has served the maximum number of terms, and to Sally Rudolf and Raj Mahli who leave the board to pursue other opportunities - their expertise and dedication was invaluable.

The board, together with our new executive director, Mariam Bouchoutrouch, remain committed to ensuring that PIRS will continue to offer much needed programs for immigrant and refugee women and their young children for many years to come. We are ready to move forward, exploring some new pathways and holding fast to our vision and mission. Please know how much we rely upon and are motivated by YOU as we enter a new year for PIRS.

Gyda Chud

Jean Maloney

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## Financial Statements at July 31, 2014



<b>Revenue</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2013 Restated</b>
Grants received		
BC Direct Access gaming funds	94,000	94,000
BC Settlement & Adaptation Program - ELSA	93,096	334,409
Vulnerable Immigrant Population Program	124,270	168,000
CIC HIPPY Program	63,134	-
City of Vancouver	87,158	77,158
Health Canada	30,000	30,000
United Way allocation	49,420	49,421
United Way designations	338	210
Decoda/Raise a Reader	8,213	1,500
CLICK	3,000	-
Other Income	22,101	22,176
Change in deferred revenue	59,867	(57,667)
<b>Total</b>	<b>634,597</b>	<b>719,207</b>
<b>Expenses</b>		
Salaries and benefits	689,172	656,559
Rent - program space	45,812	43,206
Rent - office space	35,064	35,231
Materials and supplies	13,106	5,391
Staff development	12,629	7,275
Travel and field trips	8,200	8,652
Computer and website	8,169	9,872
Telephone/fax and Internet	7,866	6,363
Office and other	6,494	7,922
Insurance	6,400	6,440
Community relations	4,827	1,803
Audit	4,304	6,278
Copying and postage	3,882	4,145
Student transit subsidy	1,831	1,679
Amortization	1,158	1,044
Honoraria	680	2,294
Brochures	584	-
Board expenses	557	618
Evaluation	-	375
<b>Total</b>	<b>850,735</b>	<b>805,147</b>
Revenue under expenses for the year	(216,138)	(85,940)
Net assets, beginning of year	345,193	431,133
Net assets, end of year	129,055	345,193
<b>Complete audited financial statements available on request.</b>		7



## Program Staff

Zarina Ali, Geeta Arothoon, Ann Asseltine, Carol Bond, Consuello Castillo, Jennie Cho, Heidi Chiu, Celina Yeeman Chung-Dehoop, Claudia Diaconu, Elana Giang, Laurie Grant, Frances Huang, Jean Huang, Joy Jhocson, Wendy Kwong, Valerie Lai, Chattly Lagura, Kim Lathigee, Lourdes Marciano, Margaret Leung, Irene Lui, Valerie Mancilla, Janet Maxwell, Kumi Nakatsuka, Arlene Ordonez, Jessie Patagan, Hoa Phan, Erika Infante Pizzaro, Blanca Salvatierra, Rosa Sevy, Anna Wing May Shum, Jessica Su, Agnes Tsang, Sammi Yang . May Mei Yau,

## ESL Volunteers

Glenda Carabit, Alexandra Haines, Thea Hector, Emerita Odon, Isabel Pitfield, Sonya Poller, Sahar Ranjbar, Krysta Reed, Judita Scott, Ramona Siciu, Tina Tran, Golnaz Yazdi

## Children's Volunteers

Alexandra Capistrano, Eshita Chowdhury, Raman Gill, Eunyoung Hwang, Hyeoun Kang, Annabelle Laroco, Sunny Mo, Jean Zhang

## Other Volunteers

Elizabeth Briemberg, Elanna Giang, Berenice Tobon, Sachiko, Tsumoto, Nadine Wilk, Suri Yindeerum, Natalia Verand



## Board Members

<b>Chairperson</b>	<b>Gyda Chud</b>
<b>Vice Chair</b>	<b>Sheila Resels</b>
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Sally Rudolf</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Peresis Ahrestani</b>
<b>Fundraising Committee</b>	<b>Heather Kennedy</b>
<b>Personnel Committee</b>	<b>Lorrie Lochrie</b>
<b>Director</b>	<b>Amy Vozel</b>
<b>Director</b>	<b>Raj Mahli</b>
<b>Director</b>	<b>Crystal Yan</b>
<b>Director</b>	<b>Gloria Cameron</b>
<b>Director</b>	<b>Rebecca Mahaffey</b>
<b>Director</b>	<b>Peyvand Omidi</b>
<b>Director</b>	<b>Yati Achjadi</b>

# Thanks!

## Core Staff

**Executive Director**  
**Jennifer McCarthy Flynn/Jean Maloney**

**Accountant**  
**Greta Ho**

**Administrative Coordinator**  
**Leah Ranada**

**ESL Program Coordinator**  
**Phyllis Kuo**

**ECE Coordinator**  
**Lupita Boris**

**Community and Settlement Coordinator**  
**Nubia Mancilla**

**Coordinator of Volunteers**  
**Liza Wajong**

**Program/Payroll Assistant**  
**Tara Qui**



**Volunteers contributed more than 1,850 hours of their time and expertise to the agency**

In 2013-14 509 immigrant women and 257 children participated in a range of programs and services, including:

- |   |                            |
|---|----------------------------|
| • Beginner level ESL programs                     | 129 women and 42 children  |
| • ELSA classes                                    | 64 women and 8 children    |
| • Intermediate level ESL                          | 26 women and 14 children   |
| • Family literacy programs (Story Time)           | 107 women and 141 children |
| • ESL parenting program                           | 24 women and 8 children    |
| • Leadership development programs (LEAD)          | 36 women and 9 children    |
| • Facilitator training program (Building Bridges) | 14 women                   |
| • HIPPY program                                   | 34 women and 35 children   |
| • Moving Ahead Program                            | 75 women and 5 men         |

Program participants came from 27 different countries of origin: Afghanistan, Brazil, Brunei, Burma, China, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Ethiopia, France, Hong Kong, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Korea, Macao, Mexico, Morocco, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Russia, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Vietnam.

## Program Partners

- Burnaby Family Life
- Cedar Cottage Neighborhood House
- Champlain Heights Community Centre
- Children’s Foundation
- Collingwood Neighbourhood House
- Frog Hollow Neighbourhood House
- Little Mountain Neighborhood House
- Marpole Oakridge Area Council
- Marpole Oakridge Family Place
- MOSAIC
- Mount Pleasant Neighbourhood House
- Pierre Elliott Trudeau Elementary School
- Quaker Meeting Place
- Richmond Multicultural Society
- South Vancouver Family Place
- South Vancouver Neighbourhood House
- SUCCESS
- Tecumseh Elementary School
- Thunderbird Community Centre
- Walter Moberly Elementary School



## HIPPY Program

**HIPPY**, which stands for **H**ome Instruction for **P**arents of **P**reschool **Y**oungsters, is a nationally funded program recognized by Kindergarten Teachers and School Principals to be an effective vehicle for preparing children for entry into the Canadian school system . PIRS first began offering the program in October 2012 though a partnership with MOSAIC and HIPPY Canada. While the curriculum is available in English and French, the PIRS HIPPY program reaches out to Vancouver based Hispanic, Filipino, Chinese and South Asian families through 4 Peer Home Visitors who speak Spanish, Tagalog, Mandarin, Cantonese, Punjabi, Hindi and Urdu. These staff visit clients once a week to deliver books and work with parents, primarily mothers, to introduce concepts and activities that will prepare their young children for success in school. Mothers then work for 15 to 20 minutes each day with their children. Parents/mothers report improvement in the parent-child relationship, greater self-confidence, reduced isolation and improved opportunities for expanding social networks and social support. Furthermore, since parents/mothers who participate in the program often graduate to become the HIPPY Home Visitors, the program often provides a first Canadian job opportunity for the new immigrant/refugee parents/mothers.

## MAP Program

PIRS began offering the **M**oving **A**head **P**rogram in October 2011 in partnership with SUCCESS, Kiwassa Neighborhood House and Vancouver Community College, initially with funding from the BC Settlement and Integration Program and more recently from Citizenship and Immigration Canada. In the PIRS MAP program, 3 staff provide settlement support to vulnerable immigrants and refugees who may be impacted by trauma, violence/abuse, mental and physical health concerns, exceptional immigration experiences, parenting challenges, and other barriers. This support includes home visits as well as one-to-one meetings and accompaniment to appointments with support agencies. Our MAP staff provide this service to clients in Spanish, Farsi, Dari and Tagalog. Clients have reported a significant improvement in their personal and/or professional lives. This ranges from feeling happier and less isolated to moving from transition housing into regular housing to being ready return to school or the work force and even to starting their own business.