



COMPASSION, POWER, RESPECT
artemis place
SOCIETY



2018-2019 Annual Report

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VISION:

Students experience educational success, find their voice, fulfill their potential and have the power to achieve their dreams.

MISSION:

To provide:

- Holistic social and emotional support and high school education to young women and Trans youth in our nurturing community
- An enriched early childhood experience to infants and toddlers of young parents while modeling care-giving and supporting each student in their parenting

HISTORY:

Artemis Place Society has been delivering integrated educational services in the Capital Region since 1971. The Society has been called the Victoria Society for Educational Alternatives, Artemis Options Society and the Girls Alternative Program.

Traditionally, our students have been young women and young moms although gender non-conforming students have attended for as long as the program has operated. As a component of our organizational development, the Society engaged in a productive process around Trans inclusion and formally welcomed Trans youth into our program in the 2015-2016 school year.



2018/2019 STATISTICS

First Nations/Metis
Students: **12**

Pregnant
Through
the Year: **3**

Average age at
Intake:
16 yrs

Number
enrolled over
program year:
54

Involved in
Criminal Justice
System:
3

Incoming
Referrals:
21

Course
Completions:
132

Maximum
Students
Enrolled
At One
Time: **49**

Hours Youth/Family
Counsellors Spent
One on One with
Students:
678

Living in foster
care/care home:
12

Graduates:
9

Prior School Absence
> than 12 months:
31.1%

Life Skills
Groups **88**
Offered:

Living
Independently:
8

Homeless at
some point
during the year:
3

YFC Outreach
Hours:
334

One on One
Youth/Family Counsellor
Support Sessions:
962

Brief Contacts:
2254

Children in
Daycare: **12**

MCFD
Involvement:
18

Total Attendance
Counts in Life Skills
Groups:
794

Meals **1674**
Served:

EDUCATION, COUNSELLING & LIFE SKILLS PROGRAMS

Artemis Place works with many community partners to enrich our offerings to students. For example, LifeCycles and Uvic's Science Ventures continued to deliver regular programming. Some field trips included the Royal BC Museum, Madrona Farm, Medicine Horses at Thirteen Moons Farm and Camosun College. PE/Outdoor Ed programming included hiking, outings with Power to Be, rock climbing, yoga, tennis, restoration at Tod Inlet and a year-end picnic at the Gorge Kinsman Park.

Youth and Family Counsellors (YFC) support students to articulate and work on goals throughout the school year and connect students to relevant community resources. The YFC's take primary responsibility for setting up the life skills component of the programming. Regular self-care and wellness teaching also happens through various activities in the schedule.

This year, Artemis Place had a new and successful Slam Poetry program and team. Several students competed in the community and had a great time. A new Pride Club was facilitated, met regularly and organized activities and events within the school. Students again worked with an Artist in Residence and exhibited their works at the Cedar Hill Youth Arts Festival.

This year we had another new record with 9 graduates who graduated either with the standard Dogwood Certificate or the Adult Grad Equivalent. The Artemis Summer Program continued with students being able to finish up graduation requirements and access support through the month of July. The summer program also provided opportunity for new students to start being in the school before the busy month of September. This year we had building renovations begin in the Spring and these also impacted students through the summer program.



ARTEMIS YOUNG PARENT PROGRAM

Artemis Young Parent Program supports teens who are pregnant and/or parenting in a nurturing community while also providing a safe, stimulating environment for their children. The four Early Childhood Educators provide responsive care while building respectful, trusting relationships that follow the child's lead. There were 12 children enrolled during the year.

The program provides many supports for families including counselling, health/nutrition information and parenting education. There were several speakers and field trips throughout the year: Butterfly Gardens, Library story time, Galey's Farm and Willows Beach. We supervised a Camosun College practicum student as well as an Artemis student who is now enrolled in the Early Care and Education Program. There were three parenting graduates this year with one attending University of Victoria Visual Arts Program and two going into the Indigenous Family Support Program.



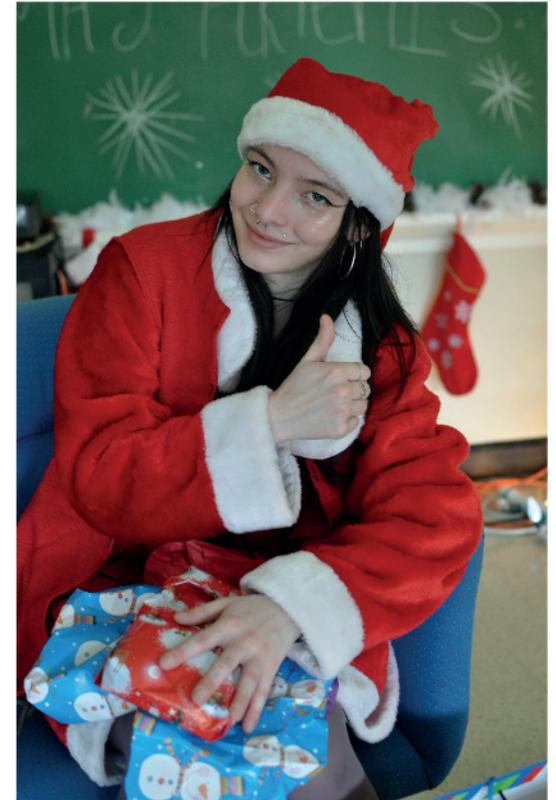
The Staff had several Professional Development opportunities: *Exploring the Emmi Pikler Approach to Infant and Toddler Care* and a 2-day conference *Enhancing Social-Emotional Learning in Young Parent Programs*.

Once again we partnered with University of Victoria sociology students and focused on a project that would help us track our alumni. They developed a guide book to help us contact past students and collect information that would be useful to use for research or other purposes.

Graduation is always a special day and this year one of the mom's spoke very emotionally about how the program helped her to accomplish her academic goals and become a better mom. It's these moments that remind us of the significance of our support.

FUNDERS AND SUPPORTERS

Artemis Place Society gratefully acknowledges all of our donors, funders, supporters and volunteers. We acknowledge the financial support from the Province of British Columbia, the Ministry of Education, and the Ministry of Children and Family Development.



We would like to especially acknowledge our Board of Directors who served over the 2018 2019 year, thank you:
Jane Arnott, Enid Elliot, Joss Hurtig-Mitchell, Patricia Maedel, Karen DeMeo,
Erin Wood, Sandra Bitz, Dawn Minty, Shailoo Bedi

STUDENT FEEDBACK

In the Spring of 2019, students were asked: How has Artemis Place Supported You? Here are some of the results:

- I've managed to get all my courses done, academic being the hardest and I also managed to understand the concepts I learned as opposed to just regurgitating information for tests. I also feel like I have a broader sense of community and more support than before. I've also managed (I think with the help of the food program and community lunch) to recover from an intense battle with eating disorders and I feel more comfortable eating with others.
- By letting me have my daughter in the day care and supporting me with getting my work done.
- With my relationships and my drug issues.
- Artemis has been the best school on supporting my anxiety.
- Helped me come out of my shell.
- Artemis has given me many resources.
- With a lot of one on one help.
- Artemis supported me through my pregnancy.
- Artemis has helped me build the confidence to no longer need Artemis, and I mean that in the best way. Being at Artemis has helped me grow and learn to live my truth. As much as I love being here and spending time with friends and babies, I feel like I'm ready to move on and live my life and do my own thing. I'm not necessarily prepared for all that life has to offer, but I'm confident that I am strong enough mentally to handle it and push through. I am eager to explore the world for myself



- By giving me a flexible schedule like doing work at home instead of showing up everyday.
- Helped me reduce my anxiety and be more comfortable in a workspace.
- A great team!
- They have supported me through finishing the grade I need to and finishing high school.
- Counsellors are helpful for figuring out school stuff like post secondary.
- Easier to come to school because of the community.
- Almost every way possible. I got help with applications, transportation, food, furniture and connection!