



Big Brothers Big Sisters Association of Grande Prairie & Area

2020 Annual Report

Prepared by Corinne Patterson
June 2021



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Mission: Enable life-changing mentoring relationships to ignite the power and potential of young people.

Vision: All young people realize their full potential.



2020 Board of Directors

President – Vernon Boyd (resigned)

Vice-President – Cheryl Weaver (resigned)

Secretary/Treasurer – Camille McLaughlin

Director – Holly Sorgen

Director – Jesse Arduini

Director – Nicole Markin

Director – Tia Chabot

Director - Katie Kennedy

Director – Peter Bolger

Director – Rob Pearce

Director – Martina Sweeney

Director – Sasha Nogueira (resigned)

Agency Staff

Executive Director – Corinne Patterson (2017)

Community Based Mentoring Coordinator – Leah Forward (2020)

Fundraising & Donor Relations Coordinator – Erika Gilroy (2019)

Site Based (ISM) Coordinator – Stephanie Cloutier (2019) (resigned)



A Message From Our President

What a time to be alive! – Three years ago, in September of 2018, a much more profound connection to our community and austerity for the human condition, was unveiled when I joined BBBS GP. I am honored to have this opportunity to assist in making a positive impact on our communities at large. To pay homage to our past president, who served 14 dedicated years, he offered the statement: ‘life is about people, not stuff’. This statement remains true to our mandate as an organization.

2020 – a year that has created many logistical and existential challenges. We look forward to our new relationships galvanizing as they will elicit thoughtfulness, reciprocity and contentment as we move forward. We have witnessed the rapid evolution of our social structure as new forms of communication emerge. Notwithstanding, we continue to find new methods of overcoming adversity which has drastically affected our ability to raise funds in the traditional formats. The challenges of the pandemic, government mandated social distancing and significantly reduced gathering sizes, exposed the need for an event that could keep everyone engaged and entertained while following public health guidelines: A couple of more recent examples of the creativity and tenacity shown by our outstanding board and staff. Emulating the premise of the popularized reality TV series ‘the Amazing Race’, our very own Nicole Markin got to work coordinating and planning the logistics of the event. Nicole’s antidote led us to our 1st annual ‘Big Little Amazing Race’. The event brought an overwhelming amount of community support for the outdoor scavenger hunt. We also have Trevor Healing to thank for conceptualizing, initiating and heading up ‘The Hub’: an indoor space specifically oriented to provide our mentors, mentees and community members a place to meet, hang out, play games and just have fun!

All industries and sectors have been impacted by the pandemic, many in ways we won’t fully understand for years to come. What is clear, however, is that human resilience and perseverance is in abundance as we have seen individuals, business and fellow non-profits rise to the challenge of helping our most vulnerable. Although the way in which fundraising is done has changed, the goal remains steadfast; help as many in need as we can with the resources available to us. One thing I believe strongly, regardless of the condition on the path ahead, our BBBS agency will adapt and overcome in a similar fashion to our past challenges.

I am grateful for the current board of directors. We will continue to work through these unprecedented times together — and come out stronger. With the recent changes our organization has gone through, the board has been encouraging and positive in spite of so many changes in such a short period of time. The passion our board exhibits for our community and this agency is humbling, it has been amazing to see the collaboration morph into tangible, repeatable outcomes.



THANK YOU also to the frontline staff who make it all happen and keep making it happen as the world ebbs and flows with various pandemic-related obstacles. Our current employees Erika, Leah, Coreen and all our previous employees who have played a part in the success of our agency. Last but certainly not least, we cannot forget our amazing ED – Corinne Patterson. Corinne has led this Agency with passion, conviction and professionalism for the past several years and will lead us through the uncharted territory of the future! THANK YOU, Corinne.

We know that the relationships between our Bigs and Little's, mentors and mentees, affects their lives, for the better, forever. When relationships are established, **reciprocity** happens. When humans choose to let other humans into their hearts **healing** happens. When questions are asked and the answers are listened to, **growth** happens. Our team is more dedicated than ever to be the difference for the kids we serve, the difference that changes the trajectory of their lives. Thank you for supporting our shared and concerted mission – Remarkable Efforts!

Jesse Arduini
President, Grande Prairie Big Brothers Big Sisters



A Message From Our Executive Director

What a challenging year 2020 was! This past year did not just present challenges for the agency. I know that each of us struggled with the fear, dissention, and the uncertainty of our world being turned upside down. But, as you can imagine, the events of the last year have impacted the youth we serve exponentially. They had to deal with all the same negative effects that we did, but now they are asked to stay home from school, there 24 hours a day, placing them in potentially, unhealthy home environments full time with no more in person support from their teachers & mentors. The mental health and well being of the youth we serve always has been, and will continue to be, our first priority. We did our very best to stay in contact with our Families and volunteers, offering a kind ear and referrals to other agencies when needed. We even had a few businesses come forward to help with the basics like groceries and gas for our Families, knowing that they were probably hit harder than most with the economic fall-out of the pandemic.

We as a staff and organization have had to pivot in so many ways; helping our matches adjust to a virtual platform, dealing with work from home orders, the loss of traditional fundraisers, monitoring the mental health and wellness of our agency Families. We also need to be cognisant of the staff and the stresses they were under. Ultimately, I believe that in coming together to better serve our families during this crisis, it has brought us closer together, made us a more effective team. I am so proud of our team, Erika and Leah have both shown unending compassion and reliability through the past year. We are lucky to have assets like them in our organization. The positive work environment that we have created in our office speaks to that hard work. We have fun at work and we are helping to change the lives of local youth, what more can we ask for?

While we have almost come through the other side of this crisis, we have not made it without a few casualties; when the schools closed, we lost our In School Mentoring Program and subsequently we lost that program coordinator as a result. I am confident that the ISM Program will be back as strong as ever come September of 2021! Other casualties have been our annual fundraisers; we have had to cancel Crouse's Cleaners Curl for Kids (x2), Hayes Fry Law Charity Golf Tournament, our Westjet Raffle & the Ultimate Escape Fundraiser as well as many other smaller initiatives throughout the year.



We have had some wins too though, for example, we were able to take advantage of various government programs that kept our staff working full-time. We partnered with the City of Grande Prairie to run the weekly outdoor pool bookings, allowing us to offer swim times weekly to our families and supporters. Instead of being the major sponsor for the cancelled UE, New Horizon Coop agreed to come into 2021 as our Community Sponsor, we were very grateful to receive that continued support from them. 2020 also saw the blossoming of an idea that became the development of the Healing Community Hub. As the namesake suggests, Trevor Healing has been instrumental in the development of this fantastic new space! Not only did he give so much of his time and effort personally, he also brought in new sponsors to keep the space financially viable. We are so grateful for his dedication to our agency.

I would like to extend my gratitude to the people that supported the agency throughout this past year, volunteers, mentors, sponsors, but most notably, our Board of Directors. We are successful because our BBBS GP Team is made up of kind, caring people that truly want to make a difference in the lives of those we serve and the community we live and work in. I continue to be amazed at the dedication of the staff and volunteers. We are so fortunate to live in a community that values volunteering and 'giving back'. We would be nowhere without the commitment of our valuable mentors and volunteers. On behalf of our Little Brothers & Sisters, we send out a huge thank you to all for you that gave us you time and your compassion.

Now, as we can finally see the light at the end of the tunnel, we are more than excited to get back to 'normal'. We are just as excited to find out what that new normal looks like for our agency.

With Gratitude,
Corinne Patterson



About Us

We believe every child should have the opportunity to reach his or her full potential – both as Individuals and citizens – that by doing so, they will not only do well, they will also do good.

We believe that by changing the course of young lives we can in turn be changing the course of a community's future. That it could lead to a reduction in poverty and unemployment, to safer schools and neighborhoods and to a renewed optimism for growth. That it could even lead to change on a broader, more far-reaching scale.

We believe that opening a child's eyes to what is – opens their mind to what could be.

For over 100 years, Big Brothers Big Sisters has been making a positive difference in the lives of our nation's youth by developing and implementing a wide range of mentoring programs – One-to-one and group programs – for both in school and outside of school. Serving as role models, our mentors teach by example the importance of giving and giving back, of staying in school and of having respect for family, peers and community. Each time we pair a child with a mentor, we start something incredible – a life changing relationship built on friendship, trust, and empowerment.

Witnessing the transformation of a child into a confident, concerned and motivated young person is a remarkable thing. Ushering them into adulthood, seeing them grow into a successful, responsible member of their community and society at large is even more satisfying. Proudly, it's something our staff, volunteers and donors help bring about every day, and we are very grateful for their generosity and support.

Whether it's in the form of time or money there is no more important investment we as individuals can make than in helping our nation's children realize – and share – their full potential.

We're Big Brothers Big Sisters and we believe in the value and the values of mentoring.



2020 – A BBBS Grande Prairie and Area ‘Year in Review’

The 13th Annual Ultimate Escape kicked off 2020 and once again the event exceeded everyone’s expectations. All funds raised that evening stay in our community and directly help match children and youth with positive, safe and quality mentors. This event grows in size and community support each year and we look forward to that trend continuing in 2022 as we anticipate the easing of pandemic restrictions that put this event on hold for 2021. We are excited to brainstorm new ideas to keep the event fresh and the crowd entertained.

Our 6th annual Crouse’s Cleaner’s Curl for Kids’ event unfortunately had to be cancelled due to covid restrictions but we would like to extend a huge thank you to David Crouse and Jesse Arduini of Crouse’s Cleaners for pledging their continued support for this event when we are able to safely hold it again. We were also forced to cancel the Hayes Fry Law Charity Golf Tournament but we are already looking forward to resuming this event in 2021 once restrictions are lifted.

2020 saw the addition of a fun new event, The Hunt Group Private Wealth Big Little Amazing Race. This idea was originally brought to us by our Vice-President, Nicole Markin, and what a fantastic idea it was! This event allowed us to stay within the restrictions required by Albert Health Services, while still offering a fun, family event for our community. We were all very pleased with the outcomes and revenue from this first year event. We look forward to next year. Thank you Nicole!

We were fortunate to be one of the chosen charities for the Cash & Camping Lottery. We were unable to sell tickets in person this year but online ticket sales were fantastic. The easing of restrictions during the summer also allowed us to plan a summer camp for our youth, and because we facilitated the weekday bookings for the City of GP Outdoor Pool, we were able to give our kids so many great memories!

A special year-end treat for our agency is the Christmas Party, but this year was such a tough year for our Families and youth so we knew that we had to find a way to make sure they all had an exciting Christmas morning. Once again, we had dozen’s of toys donated to us by the Big Toy Box/Q99/Big Country and the local Westjet office.



As we do every year, we ensure that we take advantage of all training opportunities that come our way. An example of this was the AMP/U of A Generational Trauma Series. We deal with youth from all races, religions, and backgrounds but often, we as the caregivers have never been subjected to the events and traumas that have taken their toll over generations of marginalization. To help our youth, we must understand where they are coming from and know that trauma, more than anything, has shaped their lives.

Staying in touch with the rest of the BBBS federation was more difficult in this year. To combat the feelings of isolation & helplessness within our agencies, the ED group from Alberta met regularly and this has led to the creation of Regional Leadership Teams across Canada. This allowed us to share ideas, finding out what was working with our matches and what was not. Collaboration on group fundraising was essential in this past year as all traditional means of fundraising was on hold. This group was also important for moral support and discussions about the most efficient and respectful way to interact with our National BBBS Office.

In retrospect, much of 2020 was spent worrying about funding and the wellbeing of the youth we serve. I think this helped us to understand that nothing is guaranteed, and we must embrace and respond to change. We must be able to adapt and ultimately that is how we best serve our youth and this community that we all cherish.



2020 Statistics Summary

Community Program

YEAR	VOLUNTEERS			FAMILIES			PRESENTATIONS	# OF MATCHES
	INQUIRIES	IN SCREENING	APPROVED	INQUIRIES	IN SCREENING	APPROVED		
2019								
JANUARY	14	22	1	12	11	5	1	47
FEBRUARY	14	20	9	12	6	4	0	57
MARCH	27	22	3	7	7	3	1	59
APRIL	17	18	5	4	7	0	1	61
MAY	4	16	2	5	12	8	1	63
JUNE	3	3	5	2	5	5	1	63
JULY	5	5	2	3	2	2	1	63
AUGUST	6	6	1	3	1	1	1	63
SEPTEMBER	10	4	0	6	8	0	0	61
OCTOBER	8	5	1	6	1	8	0	61
NOVEMBER	6	9	3	10	7	7	1	59
DECEMBER	5	3	3	4	2	2	0	58

Community Based

Community Program

YEAR	VOLUNTEERS			FAMILIES			PRESENTATIONS	# OF MATCHES
	INQUIRIES	IN SCREENING	APPROVED	INQUIRIES	IN SCREENING	APPROVED		
2020								
JANUARY	2	3	1	4	2	2	0	61
FEBRUARY	6	4	4	3	2	2	1	60
MARCH	2	4	1	3	3	3	0	58
APRIL	3	4	0	0	0	0	0	58
MAY	4	4	0	3	0	0	0	56
JUNE	9	8	1	3	3	3	0	53
JULY	3	4	3	1	1	1	0	54
AUGUST	7	5	1	4	4	4	0	53
SEPTEMBER	54	20	2	4	4	4	0	49
OCTOBER	11	15	4	1	0	0	3	52
NOVEMBER	9	12	3	0	0	0	0	54
DECEMBER	8	8	3	2	1	1	0	55



2020 Major Sponsors & Funders

2Day FM
97.7 Rock
Air Canada Foundation
Affordable Elegance
ATB Financial
Aurora Eye Care
Auto Exotic Trim & Signs
BMO Bank of Montreal
BNI Advantage
BW Berch Concrete
Better Than Freds
Big Country XX
Birchcliff Energy Ltd.
Bullets & Broadheads
CCSI
Canadian Tire/Jumpstart
Canadian Western Bank
Canfor
City of Grande Prairie
Costco
County of Grande Prairie No. 1
Crouse's Cleaners
Devco Developments
Direct Energy
Dominion Mortgage
Dunes Golf & Winter
Fulcrum Group
Gas Drive
Gateway Sunrooms & Shades
GP Auto Group
Grande Prairie Rotary Club
HWD Construction
Hayes Fry Law
Health Hut
Hi-Tech Business Systems
Holloway Lodging Corporation Inc.
Image Design
Investors Group

J Van's Oilfield Service
Keddie's Tack & Western Wear
Ken Sargent GMC Buick Ltd.
Investors Group Financial Services
Kaymor Welding
KMSC Law
McElhaney Survey's
McNabb Lucuk Accountants
Meyers Norris Penny
Monarch Homes
Morguard (Prairie Mall)
Mr. Mike's Steakhouse Casual
Nevada Bob's
New-Horizon Co-op
Nitehawk Adventure Park
Northern Doors
NTL Pipelines
Neil & Associates
New Horizon Coop
On-Track Motorsports
Pasco Maintenance
Pomeroy Lodging
Q99
Redline Powercraft
Regional EMS Foundation
Remax Commercial
Richer Currie Accountants
RocDog Contracting
Rotary Club of Grande Prairie
Rural Destination Discovery Marketing Fund
Standard Auto Glass
SLR Consulting
Servus Credit Union
Seven Generations Energy
Shell Canada
Shaw Communications
Swan City Rotary Club
United Way of Northwestern Alberta
Walmart

**BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS
OF
GRANDE PRAIRIE & AREA
Financial Statements
Year Ended December 31, 2020
*(Unaudited - See Notice To Reader)***

This compiled Financial Statement has been approved by _____ and
_____ and was presented at the Annual General Meeting of
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Grande Prairie & Area on _____ .

Dated _____ day of _____, 2021

Treasurer

President

NOTICE TO READER

On the basis of information provided by management, we have compiled the statement of financial position of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Grande Prairie & Area as at December 31, 2020 and the statements of revenues and expenditures and changes in net assets for the year then ended.

We have not performed an audit or a review engagement in respect of these financial statements and, accordingly, we express no assurance thereon.

Readers are cautioned that these statements may not be appropriate for their purposes.

Richer Currie LLP

Grande Prairie, Alberta
May 3, 2021

CHARTERED PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTANTS

BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS OF GRANDE PRAIRIE & AREA

Statement of Financial Position

December 31, 2020

(Unaudited - See Notice To Reader)

	2020	2019
ASSETS		
CURRENT		
Cash	\$ 247,151	\$ 155,121
Accounts receivable	7,550	12,820
Accrued interest receivable	-	59
Goods and services tax recoverable	2,302	950
	<u>257,003</u>	<u>168,950</u>
EQUIPMENT <i>(Net of accumulated amortization)</i>	4,510	697
GUARANTEED INVESTMENT CERTIFICATE	<u>180,277</u>	<u>137,370</u>
	<u>\$ 441,790</u>	<u>\$ 307,017</u>
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable	\$ 7,098	\$ 4,752
Payroll deductions payable	5,509	-
Accrued wages payable	1,599	-
Deferred income	51,414	78,666
	<u>65,620</u>	<u>83,418</u>
LONG TERM DEBT	<u>30,000</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>95,620</u>	<u>83,418</u>
NET ASSETS		
General fund	341,660	222,902
Invested in capital assets	4,510	697
	<u>346,170</u>	<u>223,599</u>
	<u>\$ 441,790</u>	<u>\$ 307,017</u>

ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD

_____ Director

_____ Director

See notes to financial statements

BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS OF GRANDE PRAIRIE & AREA**Statement of Revenues and Expenditures****Year Ended December 31, 2020***(Unaudited - See Notice To Reader)*

	2020	2019
REVENUE		
Government payments	\$ 41,000	\$ 22,168
Donations and sponsorships	5,402	127,095
Fundraising events	220,237	131,604
Casino revenue	-	13,445
United Way funding	88,625	-
	<u>355,264</u>	<u>294,312</u>
EXPENSES		
Advertising and promotion	3,316	5,854
Amortization	1,663	-
Business taxes and licences	352	-
Donations	1,270	100
Fundraising	39,435	43,977
Insurance	5,200	6,469
Interest and bank charges	3,244	4,036
Legal fees	2,145	-
Meetings and conventions	476	-
Memberships	5,106	10,548
Office	4,530	1,821
Office/storage rent	12,563	14,572
Professional fees	6,403	11,657
Program expenses	9,703	9,822
Repairs and maintenance	163	-
Staff development	121	-
Staff training	-	4,172
Storage expenses	2,242	-
Telephone	4,198	3,498
Travel and mileage	721	5,993
Volunteer recruitment/appreciation	3,316	4,007
Wages and benefits	128,743	207,381
	<u>234,910</u>	<u>333,907</u>
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES FROM OPERATIONS	<u>120,354</u>	<u>(39,595)</u>
OTHER INCOME (EXPENSES)		
Gain (loss) on disposal of property and equipment	(697)	-
Interest from other sources	2,914	3,660
	<u>2,217</u>	<u>3,660</u>
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES FOR THE YEAR	<u>\$ 122,571</u>	<u>\$ (35,935)</u>

See notes to financial statements

BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS OF GRANDE PRAIRIE & AREA

Statement of Changes in Net Assets

Year Ended December 31, 2020

(Unaudited - See Notice To Reader)

	General Fund	Invested in Capital Assets	2020	2019
NET ASSETS - BEGINNING OF YEAR	\$ 222,902	\$ 697	\$ 223,599	\$ 259,534
Purchases of capital assets	(6,173)	6,173	-	-
Disposal of capital assets	697	(697)	-	-
Amortization of capital assets	1,663	(1,663)	-	-
EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES	<u>122,571</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>122,571</u>	<u>(35,935)</u>
NET ASSETS - END OF YEAR	<u>\$ 341,660</u>	<u>\$ 4,510</u>	<u>\$ 346,170</u>	<u>\$ 223,599</u>

BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS OF GRANDE PRAIRIE & AREA

Notes to Financial Statements

Year Ended December 31, 2020

(Unaudited - See Notice To Reader)

1. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The following is a summary of the organization's related party transactions:

Tia Chabot and Modern Edge Bookkeeping have been identified as a related party as Tia Chabot is the owner of Modern Edge Bookkeeping and is a director on the board of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Grande Prairie & Area. In 2020, the organization paid Modern Edge Bookkeeping \$5,404.06 for bookkeeping services. As at December 31, 2020 the balance payable to Modern Edge Bookkeeping was \$2,006.07.
