



# SSAIC

SASKATOON SEXUAL ASSAULT &  
INFORMATION CENTRE

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2019-2020

Annual Report

# 2019 – 2020 Annual Report

## SSAIC

Saskatoon Sexual Assault  
& Information Centre

### “Working with Survivors of Past and Recent Sexual Violence”

#### Mission

SSAIC exists to be the primary provider of community leadership in addressing sexualized violence. We provide counselling and survivor services to survivors of sexualized violence and education and prevention services to the Saskatoon community.

#### Vision

SSAIC aspires to be part of a community in which individuals impacted by sexualized violence are believed and offered services to assist their healing, perpetrators of sexualized violence are held accountable for their actions, and future victims are protected. Together, we can mobilize to share responsibility for addressing sexualized violence to ensure that coordinated and evidence-based services related to sexualized violence are fully resourced.

## Message from the Board of Directors

As co-chairs of the SSAIC Board of Directors, we are pleased to present the report for the 2019-2020 fiscal year. This year, our board has continued to strengthen our governing structure with the establishment of annual work plans to guide the work of our standing committees. The Fundraising, Governance, and Human Resources Committees have continued to develop policies and documents which will guide our practice in a variety of areas, keeping our operations effective and current.

Early in the year, we engaged in a training event focused on board governance with leadership from an outside consultant. Soon after, we devoted time to review the progress of our existing strategic plan and participated in a self-evaluation of the work of our board, in preparation for the development of our next strategic plan, which was created as a result of a one-day event that took place in February. We now have a strong plan to guide the work of SSAIC for the next three years focusing on six interrelated and mutually supportive priorities.

As all organizations, SSAIC has been challenged by the swift and extraordinary situation of COVID-19. We want to take this opportunity to commend our staff for their proactive and immediate response to the pandemic. Working quickly to connect with clients, adjusting to remote client services, and identifying suitable work-from-home projects all occurred with rapid speed! We are immensely proud of the staff in meeting this unprecedented challenge. Following the lead of our staff, the Board of Directors adjusted our normal to ensure the work of SSAIC could continue, and learned that we too can adjust to this new reality. We are appreciative of the technical support of our staff to ensure that success, as well as to the emergency funding provided by the Department of Women and Gender Equity.

We take this opportunity to express our sincere appreciation to our Executive Director, Faye Davis, for her excellent leadership and commitment to our organization as well as her work in our community. We recognize the work of all staff members for their continued delivery of high-quality service to clients and their steadfast dedication to SSAIC's challenging role. Finally, we wish to recognize the members of our voluntary board for sharing their expertise and strong commitment in support of the mission and critical work of SSAIC.

Respectfully submitted,

**Ev Burnett & Carrie Roblin**  
**SSAIC Board of Directors, Co-Chairs**

## Message from the Executive Director

In 2019-2020 we were able to harvest the fruits of our hard work over the last number of years. We saw the difficult decisions we made to reorganize and change the way we deliver services pay off as we were able to support survivors without continuing to increase our waiting times. We still have more work to do, but we are excited to be on this path of improvement and stability.

We ended our fiscal year with the need to respond to the unique risks created by COVID-19. We wrapped up our school-based program early and altered our service provision in order to keep our clients, staff, and community safe. We look forward to the time we can safely see everyone in person again. In the meantime, we will use this as an opportunity to innovate and find additional ways to support survivors, and educate those of you looking to understand the issue of sexualized violence.

It takes a team to accomplish our goals. I am thankful every day to have the privilege to lead a team of talented and dedicated staff who inspire me daily with their passion and commitment to survivors. Our small but mighty group of nine staff members are the heart and soul of SSAIC.

It also takes a supportive community to make our work possible. Thank you to the groups, organizations, companies, and individuals who supported us this year through your generous financial donations. We would like to thank the Saskatchewan Ministry of Justice who provided us with the bulk of our funding through the Interpersonal Violence and Abuse Program and Specialized Program, Victim Services. We'd also like to thank those in the community who have supported our work through grants and corporate sponsorships:

- United Way of Saskatoon & Area
- Saskatoon Collaborative Funders Partnership
- Community Initiatives Fund
- Victims and Survivors of Crime Week Grant, Department of Justice, Government of Canada
- The Department of Women and Gender Equity Canada (WAGE)
- The Saskatoon Public School Division and Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools

We are so fortunate to have some very loyal donors who give to us year after year as well as those new to us this year who were moved to support us because you believe in our work. Thank you for that.

Thank you to professionals who refer clients to our agency and to our community partners who work with us to support survivors. Thank you to the individuals who sign up to receive our newsletter, who follow us on social media, and who share our information with others. We couldn't do our work without your ongoing support.

Lastly, thank you to the volunteers who make up our team of facilitators for "I'm the Boss of Me" and the Board of Directors of SSAIC. They give us their time and their talents to ensure that we are governed well and that survivors are well served. I am so appreciative of your support.

Respectfully submitted,

**Faye Davis**  
**Executive Director**

## Client Services Report

From April 2019 to March 2020, SSAIC clients were supported by the expertise and tireless dedication of our counselling team, including our newest team member, Sarah Pedersen. In June 2019, staff and clients said good-bye to long-term counsellor, Erin Redekop. We thank Erin for her years of excellent service to survivors of sexualized violence and wish her well as she moves forward in her career. Saskatoon Crisis Intervention Service once again contracted with SSAIC to provide after-hour coverage of our 24-hour crisis line. We are grateful for their very capable staff and the important service they provide.

This past year, SSAIC provided:

- Counselling and support services to **482 new clients** and answered **109 calls providing support, informal calls and referrals.**
- SSAIC counsellors continued to provide counselling services to an **additional 300 previously existing clients** for a total of **782 survivors supported in 2019-2020.**
- We provided **2,077 follow-up services**, including phone support, individual and group counselling, and police and court accompaniments for a total of **2,668 contacts** with survivors of sexualized violence and their support persons.

*“SSAIC has helped me because I am no longer afraid. I am myself again.”*  
-Counselling Client

SSAIC is proud to offer a variety of support groups to survivors of sexualized violence. These groups provide an educational component offering information and tools to assist clients' healing process. More importantly, our group creates a space for survivors to connect, share, and know they are not alone. This year, SSAIC delivered a total of **51 group sessions** to a total of **98 unique clients**. Group programming included Open Group, Women's Group, Men's Group and Trauma-Sensitive Yoga.

*“I don't know what I'd do without Group. It helped me grow and heal in ways I'd never thought possible.”*  
-Open Group Participant

*“Being around other men like me allowed me to open up more easily about my experiences and improved my healing. Without this group I would feel very alone in my experience, even though you know there must be men who have also been subject to sexual assault, until you actually meet some of them, your experience is not validated.”*  
-Men's Group Participant

I am honored to be a part of a counselling team that consistently provides high quality, trauma-informed and survivor-centered services to those impacted by sexualized violence in our community. Thank-you to all SSAIC staff for contributing to an organization that creates change and demonstrates on a daily basis that healing is possible.

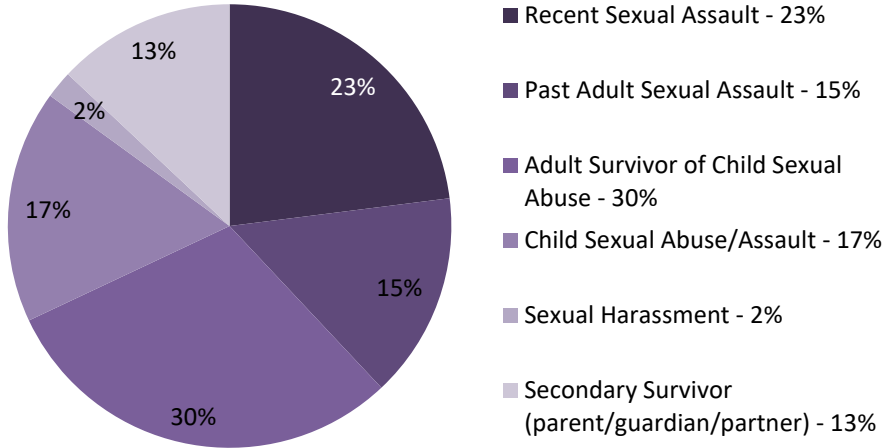
Respectfully submitted,

**Megan Sawyer**  
Client Services Coordinator

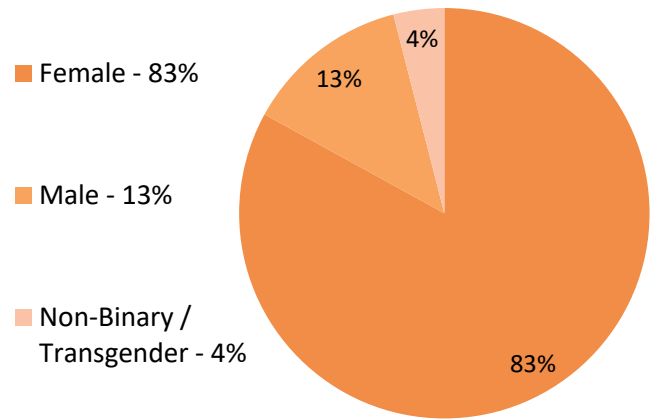
## Statistics of New Clients in 2019-2020

(Note: Many clients report experiencing multiple sexual assaults across the lifespan; this is not reflected the below data)

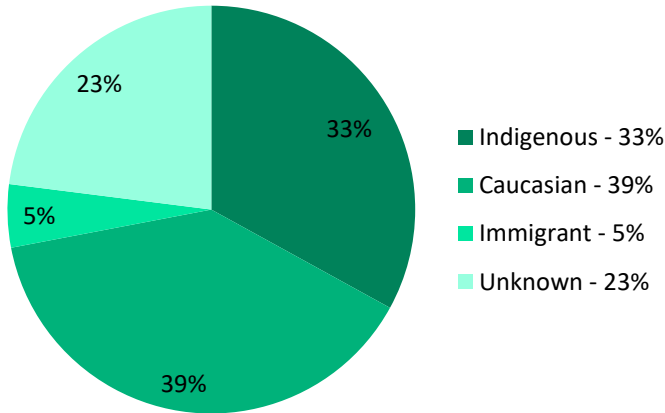
### Types of Sexualized Violence



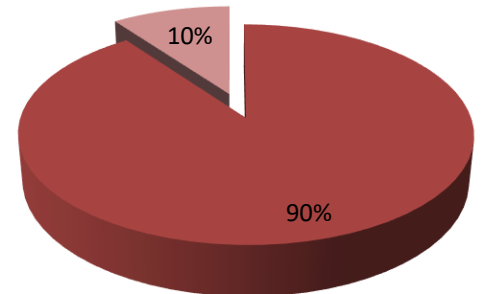
### Gender of Survivors



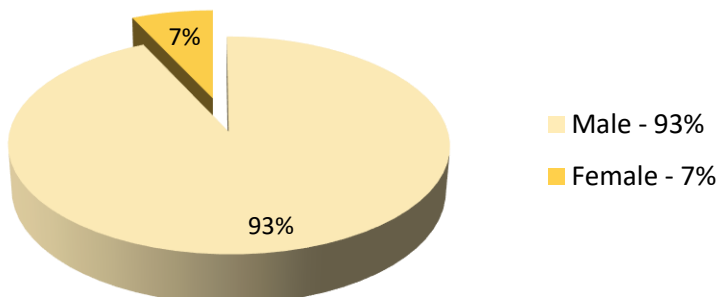
### Cultural Status of Survivor



### About the Offender



### Gender of Offender



## Education Report

We focused our education work this year on providing our I'm the Boss of Me, Childhood Sexual Violence Prevention Program, our First Responders to Sexual Assault Training and providing community education to agencies working in our community.

Our child sexual abuse prevention program, "I'm the Boss of Me" is our largest prevention project. Despite a short season due to health concerns connected to COVID-19, we were successful in our delivery of the fourteenth season of the program.

- We presented to **96 classrooms of the 129 booked**, an increase from 2019
- We booked **96%** of public schools (51 of 53) and **60.5%** of Catholic schools (23 of 38)
- We were able to reach **2,484 children** in our seven weeks of shows
- We operated with a dedicated team of **40** program facilitators, one part-time program assistant, and one full-time program coordinator
- We passed the milestone of presenting our puppet show to more than 30,000 Grade 4 students since the beginning of the program in 2007.

Thank you to our amazing volunteer facilitators this year. Without each and every one of you, the program would not be a success; we share our gratitude and successes with you.

SSAIC's staple professional education program, First Responder to Sexual Assault Training (FRT) was also a success. Three trainings were held between April 2019 and February 2020, with our fourth training scheduled for March 2020 cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Our three trainings educated a total of **40 professionals** in our community who indicated they may receive a disclosure of sexualized violence in the course of their work.

In addition to our FRT trainings, SSAIC provided 29 presentations to 688 various community members and professionals in Saskatoon, including client users, university students, OUT Saskatoon staff, and Global News staff. This all adds up to **130+ hours of trainings and presentations delivered!** Staff attended three information fairs to share resources, and participated in community events such as the Pride Parade and Rock Your Roots Walk for Reconciliation. Approximately 1,305 paper resources (pamphlets, business cards, fact sheets) were distributed in the community.

## Outreach Report

As part of our outreach effort this year, SSAIC staff were fortunate enough to receive 11 hours of education from community agencies such as CFS Saskatoon, Saskatoon Sexual Health, and the Sexual Offender Treatment Program on their services and initiatives that overlap with our clientele.

In partnership with OUTSaskatoon this fiscal, we began a project to develop education materials and resources for both agencies and the larger community for the 2SLGBTQ+ community and sexualized violence survivors. On May 30 2019, we held an information session for professionals in the community to share our resources as well as best practices when supporting 2SLGBTQ+ survivors and how agencies can create an inclusive environment for the 2SLGBTQ+ community.

SSAIC also conducted a research project with funding from the Community Initiatives Fund to discover and strategize ways to eliminate barriers in accessing sexualized violence services for three key groups: new Canadians, Indigenous persons and communities, and the 2SLGBTQ+ community. Notable recommendations of the final report were highlighted in the areas of hiring practices, public education, outreach work, programming, staff training, and communications. We will be using this report to guide our future work.

# Communications Report

This year, we said goodbye to our Communications & Development Manager, Megan Evans. We thank Megan for her amazing work and dedication to serving survivors in our community, and wish her luck in her new endeavor.

SSAIC uses our social media platforms, newsletters, and website to share information and keep the community up to date on our work. Between April 2019 and March 2020, we gained **1,312** Facebook followers, **177** newsletter subscribers, and averaged **1,213** visits to our website per month for a total of **31,258** webpage views. We have continued to grow a community through Facebook steadily this year, hitting a total of **1,730** followers (a **413% increase** from this time last year) and reached a total of **157,578** unique Facebook users (the number of times SSAIC appeared on people's Facebook feeds).

Our newsletter, with 758 subscribers as of March 31st 2020, highlights news from our agency, sexualized violence stories in the news, and our recommended books and learning opportunities. We worked on standardizing our newsletter this year, as well as bringing our new branding forward into the newsletter, our website, and our social media as a whole.

Respectfully submitted,

**Morgan Price**  
**Education & Outreach Coordinator**

SSAIC presents...



## 2020 YEAR IN REVIEW

Child Sexual Abuse Prevention Program for Grade 4 Students

Teaching children that they are the boss of their own bodies.

### THE PROGRAM

We continue to book more presentations each year...



...reaching a total of 30,000+ children over 14 years!

**96%**  
SPSD SCHOOLS

**60%**  
GSCS SCHOOLS

### THE PEOPLE



### THE DELIVERY

Core funded by our generous **COMMUNITY PARTNERS**



Volunteer-facilitated PUPPET SHOWS

Teacher-led LESSON PLANS

Community-provided EMPOWERMENT

### THE WHY

To go out of business, of course!

We can't wait until our program is no longer necessary. Until then, we will continue spreading our message: everyone can find safe people to help them and everyone is the boss of their own bodies. Even children.



FOR THE FULL ANNUAL REPORT, VISIT [SSAIC.CA/BOSS](http://SSAIC.CA/BOSS)



## Staff Members

Faye Davis	Executive Director
Irene Hildebrant	Office Manager
Katherine Jones	Office Manager
Megan Sawyer	Client Services Coordinator
Kathie Pruden Nansel	Counsellor
Stephanie Locke	Counsellor
Sarah Pedersen	Counsellor
Morgan Price	Counsellor / Education & Outreach Coordinator
Debbie Gsell-Danilkewich	Receptionist & Assistant Coordinator, "I'm the Boss of Me"

## Board of Directors

Ev Burnett	Co-Chair
Carrie Roblin	Co-Chair
Shirley Kloeble	Treasurer
Candace Guist	Chair of Human Resources Committee
Jodi Earl	Chair of Recruiting Committee
Sandra Paulsen	Chair of Fundraising Committee
Meghan Seidle	General Member
Renee Breckner	General Member
Shauna Bradford-Wilson	General Member
Elise Matthews	General Member

## "I'm the Boss of Me" Program Facilitators

Angela Barden	Cing Zun	Meagan Dagenais
Ashley Voinorosky	Darcey Noga	Megan McCarthy
Jen Lake	Diana Rodas	Nikaela Lange
Jenny Besenski	Eiman Abbas	Shania Brown
Kenzy Horudko	Eliza Petty	Stephanie Neufeld
Micaiah Wiens	Hannah Pedersen	Taryn Domanko
Samantha den Hollander	Ishita Zaman	Taylor Kyle
Ali Jansen	Jason Rock	Taylor Wingert
Amber Wolff	Kasia Thorlakson	Teall Bye
Ameila Fries	Khadija Morody	Tera Mantyka
Brenna Vanstone	Lisa Poon	Trixie Denise Wills
Brittany Eberle	Mackenzie Loewen	Vivian Kelly
Brynn Colby	Madi Kuhn	
Carla Nagy	Margaret Smith	

## Funders & Donors

Interpersonal Violence and Abuse Program, Ministry of Justice, Government of Saskatchewan  
Specialized Program, Victim Services, Ministry of Justice, Government of Saskatchewan  
United Way of Saskatoon & Area  
Saskatoon Collaborative Funders Partnership  
Community Initiatives Fund  
Victims and Survivors of Crime Week Grant, Department of Justice, Government of Canada  
Capacity Grant, Department of Women and Gender Equity Canada (WAGE)  
Saskatoon Public School Division  
Kinsmen Club of Saskatoon  
Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools  
Raymond James Ltd.  
Soroptimist International of Saskatoon  
Northern Resource Trucking LP  
SIGA & Dakota Dunes  
SaskMusic  
Virtus Group  
Boychuk Construction Corp  
Saskatoon Truck Centre  
Crossmount Cidery  
& individual donors – we thank you!



**RAYMOND JAMES**



**Saskatoon Public Schools**  
Inspiring Learning



**GREATER  
SASKATOON  
CATHOLIC  
SCHOOLS**



**Community  
Initiatives  
Fund**



**SASKOMUSIC**