



BGC Stettler  
- Heartland  
Youth Center  
  
Annual General  
Meeting  
& Volunteer  
Recognition Night  
March 17, 2025

## BGC STETTLER – HEARTLAND YOUTH CENTER

### Board of Directors

|                    |                  |
|--------------------|------------------|
| Chairperson –      | Amanda Nelson    |
| Vice Chairperson – | Kim Weaver       |
| Secretary –        | Sarah Verhoeven  |
| Treasurer –        | Ruby MacDonell   |
| Directors –        | Dave Wood        |
|                    | Cherisse Cassidy |
|                    | Sherry Marshall  |
|                    | Curtis Halverson |
|                    | Tamara Rutz      |
|                    | Kara Lesyk       |



### Screening Committee Members:

Kim Weaver, Joe Thibeau, Penny Warford, Erin Stauffer, Christel Shuckburgh

### Staff:

Executive Director – Winnie Bissett  
Program Director – Sara Wengryn  
Mentoring Coordinator – Christel Shuckburgh  
Program Coordinator – Erin Ross-Lenz  
Creating Connections Coordinator – Hayley Fawcett  
Program Leaders – Pat Wood, Melanie Koch, Drew Turnbull, Kaylon Corkum, Chloe Wetter  
Summer Staff 2024 – Shallyn Andersen, Waylon Blumhagen, Kristin Forseth, Katie Wengryn

### 2024 PROGRAMS:

- Mentor matches
- Group Mentoring
- Rainbows
- Prism
- Community Boys Group
- Keystone Club
- Torch
- Learn On
- Lead Up Volunteers
- After School Drop In
- Discovery Lab
- Kid Power
- Kid Food Nation
- Teen Drop In
- Art Attack
- Kid Tech Nation
- PD Day & Spring Break - Day Camps
- RAD Summer Program
- Teen Summer Program
- Art Camp
- Special events



**BGC STETTLER - HEARTLAND YOUTH CENTER**  
**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING & VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION NIGHT - AGENDA**  
Monday, March 17, 2025, 7:00pm at Heartland Youth Center

**1.0 CALL TO ORDER**

- Call to Order and Welcome Guests: Chairperson, Amanda Nelson
- Introduction of Board & Staff: Executive Director, Winnie Bissett

**2.0 READING OF 2024 AGM MINUTES** Secretary, Sarah Verhoeven

**3.0 FINANCIAL REPORT**

- 2024 Audited Financial Statement: Treasurer, Ruby MacDonell

**4.0 APPOINTMENT OF AUDITOR FOR 2025** Treasurer, Ruby MacDonell

**5.0 NOMINATIONS TO BOARD OF DIRECTORS** Chairperson, Amanda Nelson

**6.0 REPORTS**

- Chairperson, Amanda Nelson
- Executive Director, Winnie Bissett

**7.0 OTHER - Special guests, presentations**

- Torch Club
- Keystone Club
- Brand Page - Alumni



**8.0 VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION**

**Pauline Christian Memorial Community Service Scholarship**

- In recognition of community service, Service above Self, presented by the Rotary Club

**Corporate / Community Cares - Appreciation Award**

- In recognition of outstanding and long term support from a local business or organization

**Kalysta's Kindness Award**

- In recognition of a member that role models kindness & compassion to others

**Benny Green Memorial "Whistle While You Work" Award**

- In recognition of embracing community service work with a smile and positive attitude

**Marg Forrester Memorial Award**

- In recognition of outstanding adult volunteer contribution to Club programs

**Nicole Blumhagen Memorial Award**

- In recognition of outstanding volunteer contribution to the Club and community by a Club member

**Lloyd's Leaders Award**

- In recognition of outstanding leadership and effort by teen Club member

**HYC Hall of Fame Award**

- In recognition of long term service, outstanding effort and support by an individual, volunteer, or community group

**9.0 ADJOURNMENT** – PLEASE STAY FOR COFFEE, JUICE, AND SNACKS

**BGC STETTLER – HEARTLAND YOUTH CENTER  
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – 2024 MINUTES**  
Monday, March 18, 2024, at Heartland Youth Center

**ATTENDANCE:**

**Board Members:**

Amanda Nelson, Ruby MacDonnell,  
Tanya Derr, Curtis Halverson, Sarah  
Verhoeven, Dave Wood, Sherry  
Marshall, Kara Lesyk, Tamara Rutz  
Regrets: Cherisse Cassidy, Kim  
weaver

**Volunteers:**

Drew Rouse, Corie Phillips, August  
Roenspies, Fred Joynes, Will  
Snodgrass, Camilla Villega Reyes

**HYC Members:**

Rhys, Dartania, Zayna, Dane, Gabby,  
Lucas, Shaun, Emily, Landon, Cheryl,  
Dakota, Dominic, Yelena, Alexis, Kaden, Chloe, Izabella, Natalie

**Staff Present:**

Winnie Bissett, Sara Wengryn, Christel Shuckburgh, Mel Koch, Pat Wood, Abby Grantham,  
Indy Soboleski, Dakota Derr, Kelsey Wright

**Guests Present:**

Town Councilors – Cheryl Barros, Gord Lawlor, Mayor Sean Nolls, Kurt Baker.  
Rotarians – Perry Christian, Brad Snodgrass; ACAA – Stephanie Hadley, SIRC – Lorraine  
Hankins  
Lena Snodgrass, Scott & Sandy Roenspies, Ashley Grimes, Kelsey Osbourne, Ashely  
Skirrer, Steven Strandquist, Scott Purves, Kayla Kobi, Jodi and Harvey Wonenberg, Don  
Peterson, Shayne Kromm, Dolores Bussiere, Chad Nelson, Rodney Whiteside, Jodi Bell,  
Michelle Pickersgill, Jennel Schofer, Colin, Blaine, Dennis, Donna Gendre, Angela, Jake,  
Hailee Vermeer



**1.0 CALL TO ORDER**

Meeting called to order by Amanda at 7:00pm.

**2.0 MINUTES**

Sarah made a motion to accept the 2023 AGM minutes as presented

Curtis seconded      All in favor      CARRIED

**3.0 FINANCIAL REPORT**

Ruby read the 2023 audited financial report and made a motion to accept as presented

Sherry seconded All in favor  
CARRIED

Ruby made a motion to appoint RWA Chartered Professional Accountants LLP to do Heartland Youth Center audited statements in 2024

Tamara seconded All in favor  
CARRIED



#### 4.0 NOMINATIONS TO HYC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Curtis made a motion to nominate Kara Lesyk and Tamara Rutz to the board. Kara and Tamara accepted the nominations.

Ruby seconded All in favor CARRIED

#### 5.0 STAFF REPORT

- Amanda read the Chairperson report:
- Winnie read her Executive Director / Staff Report

#### 6.0 OTHER (Special guests, presentations)

- Keystone & Torch Club did a presentation to celebrate Winnie's 35 years of service
- Will Snodgrass spoke about the positive impacts being a mentor has had on him
- Jodi Bell (Keystone alumni 1994) spoke about the positive impacts the HYC has had on her growing up, as well as her children

#### 7.0 VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION

**Presentations made to acknowledge our volunteers:**

Marg Forrester Memorial Award – Donna Gendre

Pauline Christian Memorial Award – Drew Rouse

Corporate Cares Organization – Woody's Automotives/NAPA (Dave Wood & Don Peterson)

Kalysta's Kindness Award – Kelly Sargent, Dominic Strandquist

Benny Green Whistle While You Work Award – Rhys Bird

Nicole Blumhagen Memorial Award – Emily Wonnenberg

Lloyds Leaders – Will Snodgrass, Oksana Zinets

HYC Hall Of Fame Award – Amanda Nelson




#### 8.0 ADJOURN MEETING

Amanda adjourned the meeting at 8:24 pm

## HYC Timeline

- 1983** Big Brothers Big Sisters (BBBS) starts out in Stettler because of the inquiry by one single father and the support of some exceptional community minded people.
- 1985** The debut of Bowl for Kids fundraiser
- 1988** BBBS Board of Directors decide to expand opportunities and programs for youth by starting a Boys and Girls Club
- 1991** BBBS and B&G Club “amalgamate” to operate under one Board, one budget, one Executive Director and under the umbrella name of Heartland Youth Center
- 1992** New fundraiser for HYC – the radio auction!
- 1996** The Stettler Royal Canadian Legion spearheads a fundraising campaign to build a facility to house the Heartland Youth Center and Scouts
- 1997** The HYC moves into their brand-new facility – the Legion Youth Complex!
- 2015** HYC buys a new 24 passenger bus!
- 2021** Boys & Girls Clubs of Canada is rebranded to BGC Canada to be more inclusive. Boys & Girls Club of Stettler & District also changes their public facing name to BGC Stettler & District.
- 2023** BBBS of Stettler society is dissolved. HYC creates a new mentoring program under BGC Stettler
- 2024** We are now known as BGC Stettler – Heartland Youth Center



# UNBELIEVABLE IMPACT IN 2024

**MISSION**

To provide safe, supportive places where children and youth can experience new opportunities, overcome barriers, build positive relationships, and develop confidence and skills for life.

**VISION**

All children and youth discover and achieve their dreams and grow up to be healthy, successful, and active participants in society.

**VALUES**

BELONGING | RESPECT | ENCOURAGEMENT & SUPPORT | WORKING TOGETHER | SPEAKING OUT

OPPORTUNITY CHANGES EVERYTHING

100%

of kids feel like they matter to more people because of our Club

93%

of kids feel more confident about their future because of the Club

5

EMPLOYEES WERE CLUB KIDS

15

EMPLOYEES

8310

MEALS AND SNACKS

236

VOLUNTEERS

22

PROGRAMS

23

ADULT VOLUNTEERS WERE CLUB KIDS

3036

VOLUNTEER HOURS

Who We Serve

395


CHILDREN AND YOUTH SERVED

140

13+ YEARS

255

6-12 YEARS



\*Data are from 2024

# BGC STETTLER – HEARTLAND YOUTH CENTER

## Executive Director’s Report – 2024

Some of the highlights of 2024 were:

### FUNDING

- ★ Received various grants in connection with BGC Canada:
  - President’s Choice Children’s Charity – nutrition programming; snacks & meals
  - Government of Canada ESDC – Lead Up; Learn On; Mental Health; Mental Health Staff Training.
  - Government of Canada / CanCode – Kid Tech Nation
  - Hershey Canada – Pink Shirt Day activities; anti-bullying & kindness initiatives
  - Trottier Family Foundation – Discovery Lab Youth
  - Coca Cola Foundation – Keystone Club
  - Unnamed funders – nutrition programming; snacks & meals
  - Walmart Foundation – Kid Food Nation
  - Northbridge – Healthy Active Living programs; Rainbows; Mentoring; Boys Group
  - WestJet Cares – WestJet flight vouchers
  - BGC Alberta – Summer camp subsidies
  
- ★ Received other grants:
  - Canadian Tire Jumpstart Community Foundation - physical activity programming
  - Alberta Parks & Recreation Association / KidSport – Return to Play physical activity programming
  - TD Bank Group – Art camp and art programs
  - Jays Care Foundation Community Partner – Family Game Night programming; summer programming; baseball programming; and staff training
  - Community Recovery Services Fund (CSRF) – update and streamline our data management systems and processes; digitize operating standards
  - Government of Canada – wages for 2 Canada Summer Jobs students



★ KidSport Stettler and Canadian Tire Jumpstart Foundation continue to provide subsidy opportunities for our families to access programs.

★ The 32<sup>nd</sup> annual Awesome Auction - a “Vintage Vegas” theme was a huge success due to great support from the community, businesses, and individuals! 295 people attended; 165 items up for bids; 71 adults and 23 teens contributed 663 volunteer hours; and approximately \$81,500 was raised!

- ★ Bowl for Kids - “PIRATES PIRATES PIRATES” themed Bowl for Kids event raised approx. \$25,900! 24 business/organization teams participated in this FUNdraiser! Kal Tire was the top fundraising team - \$6280!
- ★ 2024 Landlords of the Month were: Canalta, Gary Moe Chevrolet Buick GMC, Gitzel & Company, Keith’s Refrigeration, Stettler Veterinarian Clinic, Wells Furniture, JT Autobody, Bond-O Security Systems, The Mortgage Centre – Tana Nixon, Ampko Electric (2006) Inc, WTS Manufacturing and Stettler Rotary Club. CSN Brennan was the bus sponsor.
- ★ We received financial support from the Town and County of Stettler - \$50,000; and donations from: Kinette Club of Stettler, Superfluity, Wells Furniture / Bernie Jackson, Ember Resources, RIFE Resources, Stettler Car Club, Warden Ladies Club, Brown’s Insurance Services, Cape Manufacturing, Safe Grad 2024, TD Canada Trust, AB Provincial Judges Association, Buffalo Sands Residents Association, Scenic Sands Community Association, Kaus Enterprises, Scotia Bank – Brandi Page and many individuals.
- ★ We received memorial donations in memory of Lorn Fisher, Lynn Derwantz, David Clark
- ★ We were the beneficiary of local events held at the Coffee Tree, Performance Health and Fitness Centre, County of Stettler staff, TD staff, Music for Mental Health
- ★ We received numerous gifts in kind from: Thorogood and Pinches, Real Country Q93.3FM, Boston Pizza, Ampko Electric, Town of Stettler, Stettler Ag Society, Kids Up Front tickets to CFL games, Canada Goose, Oppono Lending Company and Canadalend (75 coats/snowsuits to give to youth!) as well as many in-kind donations from community members.
- ★ 4 volunteers sold 50/50 tickets at Stettler Imperials game raising \$816.50; Giving Tuesday activities raised \$1755
- ★ Sold the 15-passenger van





## STAFFING

- ★ We continue to accept practicum students from many disciplines in their post-secondary education. 2 Social Work Practicum Students from Red Deer Polytechnic, Taylor Cholach & Brady Guynup, completed their hours in April.
- ★ A big shout out to all the staff - their duties and care go far beyond the programs that you can see!
- ★ Staff and volunteers attended various workshops on: mental health issues facing youth; challenging behaviors in youth; healthy relationships; Trauma Informed Care and Programming; First Aid; Expectations & Boundaries; BGC of AB meetings; BGC of Canada meetings; Jays Care training; Volunteer Recruitment; suicide intervention; food security; AB Mentoring Partnership summit; BGC Western regional conference; Rainbows Facilitator training; Keeping Girls in Sport; Respect in Sport; Supporting Positive Behavior; Welcoming All Abilities; Transforming Practices; as well as mandatory online training thru BGC of Canada
- ★ Staff and Board participated in the BGC Canada Peer Review. This in-depth process involved reviewing, updating operational, governance policy manuals; interviews by other BGC staff with members, parents, community members, donors; and 2 days in house observation and reporting with the review team.



## PROGRAMS

- ★ 2024 year ended with a registered membership of 395 youth
- ★ Torch and Keystone (12-18 years) members volunteered in the community for events such as park cleanup; Alberta Highway Clean up; set up and take down for Festival of Lights; served desserts at Central Alberta Pregnancy Centre's Dessert Night; served cookies and juice at Music for Mental Health; helped at Awesome Auction; purchased gifts for teens for the Christmas Hamper; they offered a Kids Carnival at SRC on Family Day; sorted food donations at the Firemen's Food Bank Drive; made Christmas cards and visited seniors at Paragon Place





★ These teens also planned and participated in fundraising events for their group – bottle drive to buy items for the Christmas Hamper; held a spaghetti supper fundraiser; and had a successful “Paranormal Prison” Haunted House.

★ Our daily summer program (6 x 1 weeklong camps offered) involved 72 members ages 6-12 were registered. 47 teens participated in the Teen programs in the summer including junior leadership, in-house, and out of town activities at the Club. 9 junior leaders volunteered 127 hours in the summer program! Our weeklong summer TD Art Camp - 19 members participated in this awesome Art experience. 14 youth participated in a Babysitting Course; 7 youth participated in a weeklong Discovery Lab camp. In total,

138 unique youth participated in summer programs!

- ★ Sweet Home on Main has been donating new and next to new clothes. Once a month, we hosted a “Thrifty Thursday” event to share the clothes with our teens.
- ★ In February, 28 members completed the BGC Canada Learning & Impact Survey which we have used to prove and improve our impact. Results found that we have improved since 2022 in 4 key areas: positive relationships, healthy living, lifelong learning, and leadership skills.
- ★ We partnered with the Outreach School to offer two programs. Creating Connections was offered early in the year to increase youth awareness about substance use and misuse, prevent harm associated with substance use, and promote healthy relationships and coping. Learn On was offered in the Fall as an academic support and educational persistence program that works to address systemic inequalities and barriers that often leave youth at risk of educational disengagement. Youth are supported through their educational journey, in transitions from youth to adulthood, and are supported with social and emotional wellbeing. We are especially thankful for



the many local businesses and individuals who have come in to speak about training requirements and share knowledge for their field of work.

- ★ COPA and Stettler Flying Club, and sponsors Steve and Barb Wilfort, made Flights for Kids an awesome experience for 20 members
- ★ A grant from Jays Care Foundation sponsored the Family Night at Home opportunity for 25 families which included 58 children and 43 adults. This incredible grant covered the cost of 1 catered family meal a week for 3 weeks, as well as a family game package.
- ★ Zach Wengryn received the BGC Canada Grade 10 Best Buy scholarship (1/20 recipients across Canada) which includes \$4000 towards post secondary education, \$750 gift card to purchase a laptop, and \$250 prepaid visa for education application costs.
- ★ Katie Wengryn received a Baskin-Robbins BGC scholarship of \$4000 towards post secondary education. She was 1 in 4 selected from across Canada.
- ★ In 2024 there were a total of 14 one-on-one community or in school mentor matches at the Club, Christ King, Erskine, Botha, and Big Valley schools. As well, there were 2 teen mentoring groups – the SES had 15 high school teen mentors and 13 SES mentees; CKCS had 8 high school teen mentors and 8 mentees.
- ★ 46 children from the Stettler Elementary; Stettler Christ King Catholic; and Erskine schools participated in the Rainbows program with the support from 13 facilitators. As well, parents participated in the Prism program (adult component of Rainbows). Thank you to Family Resource Network for their collaboration on the Prism program!



★ There were 17 entries in the Most Gourd-geous pumpkin carving contest – won by Points West. As well, 40 mentees, mentors and their families participated in the pumpkin carving night at the Club.

★ Community Boys group was formed to provide male mentorship in the community for the boys on the wait list for a mentor. Boys group goes on monthly group activities and



awesome adventures including ice fishing, building a soapbox car for the Derby, CFL Stampeders game, pontoon boat ride and fishing, Gopher Museum, Blokes Bakery tour, Polar Express train trip, gym activities at the Club.

★ The third annual Soap Box Derby was held in June. 16 youth, 14 volunteers and 12 handmade soapbox derby cars took part. 2 soapbox cars were sponsored by Woodhill Instrumentation and T.A.K. Oilfield Services.

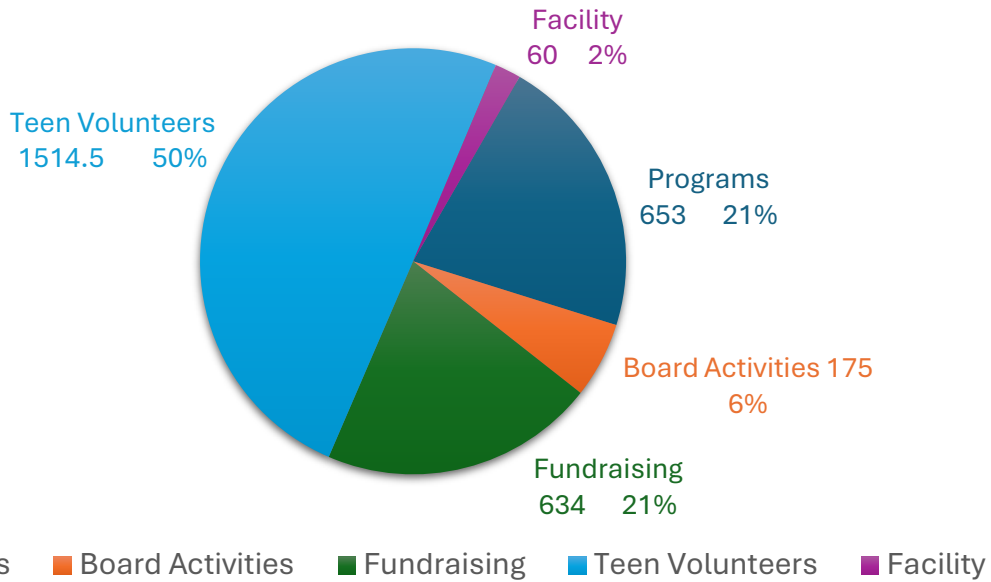
★ In September we celebrated our 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary with a Block Party! The Stettler Wellness trailer was on site with games, BBQ, and a resource fair. Approx 100 guests braved the cold day to celebrate with HYC alumni, staff, members and volunteers

## Community Partners / Presentations

- ★ We partnered / collaborated with:
  - McMan Family Resource Network (FRN) to support various program events and to lead a Babysitting course
  - FRN, Rural Mental Health, Information & Referral, Stettler Ag Society to host the Community Holiday Dinner
  - CARS – MpowerMENT (teen mentoring group)
  
- ★ Presentations were made to the Town Council, Rotary Club; at the high school, and at Music for Mental Health to share our impact and services.
  
- ★ Staff participate on various community committees: ACAA; Circle of Services; Agency Resource Committee; Family Connection Coalition committee, SOARING Project, and volunteer at community events such as the Christmas Hamper; Meals on Wheels; A Seat at the Table
  
- ★ Program Director Sara supports families to complete KidSport, Canadian Tire JumpStart, and Gear Up applications or referrals for their children to attend local sporting activities and receive free sporting equipment.
  
- ★ Staff led sessions at Wm E Hay and CKCS for wellness days and career fairs



## Volunteer Hours 2024: 3036.5



| Members Served       | In 2023 |        |                     |       | In 2024 |        |                     |       |
|----------------------|---------|--------|---------------------|-------|---------|--------|---------------------|-------|
|                      | Male    | Female | Non-Binary or Other | Total | Male    | Female | Non-Binary or Other | Total |
| 6 – 12 years         | 132     | 118    | 2                   | 252   | 129     | 124    | 2                   | 255   |
| 13 – 18 years        | 56      | 77     | 2                   | 135   | 61      | 79     | 0                   | 140   |
| <b>Total Members</b> | 188     | 195    | 4                   | 387   | 190     | 203    | 2                   | 395   |

