



2019 Annual Report

Sagesse empowers individuals, organizations and communities to break the cycle of domestic violence by curating environments to heal and lead safe, healthy lives. The literal translation of Sagesse is *wisdom*. Our agency encourages the wisdom to seek help, to support and connect, to share knowledge, to self-reflect, and lastly, to mindfully curate space for healing, learning, and growth.

This year we focused on prevention; evolving the discourse to stop violence before it begins. We believe that through rethinking the norms, attitudes, conceptions, perspectives, ideas and definitions surrounding domestic and sexual abuse we can eradicate the epidemic of violence in Alberta.

In 2019 Sagesse launched our Real Talk initiative. The initiative recognizes that over 80% of female victims of domestic violence tell a friend or family member about the violence long before they access a formal support (if they ever do) and how that person responds is critical to the victims help seeking. It also acknowledges that most perpetrators fully rely on friends and family, never accessing formal supports. Real Talk isn't fancy or complicated, it's just a moment between two people. It is about recognizing the violence, empathizing with the individual, asking the person what they want/need for support and listening to their requests. In 2019 over 1,300 Albertan's actively participated in Real Talk (formerly called Stand By) workshops and another 3,000 received Real Talk information through our website and public information materials. Real Talk is a prevention initiative that helps to disrupt the violence before it escalates.

We also began work on the development of a primary prevention framework to eradicate domestic and sexual violence. Through our work as the backbone for IMPACT, the provincial domestic and sexual violence collective impact initiative, we were able to support our sector to come together to begin work upstream to identify, solve, and uproot the underlying problems and drivers of sexual and domestic violence in society. This work has just begun, and we are excited to be the backbone for the evolving discourse around domestic and sexual violence.

In 2019, our budget increased by over 28%. This increase allowed us to expand our programming to meet the growing needs of our clients and communities in which we serve. The Statement of Financial Position reports assets of \$827,163 The Statement of Operations shows an excess of \$201 for the year. At the end of the year, Sagesse had sufficient cash balances to meet liabilities.

This year's annual report highlights the importance of prevention and stopping violence before it begins.

Andrea Silverstone
Executive Director

Rebecca Stephen
Board Chair

Outcomes That Matter

Sagesse outcomes and outputs are guided by our agency Theory of Change:

When processes of deconstruction and reconstruction are curated and facilitated, then people, organizations, communities and systems are empowered to heal, leverage knowledge, and foster relationships in order to disrupt structures of violence.

Outcomes



<p>A MOVEMENT BUILDING APPROACH TO ADDRESS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IS ESTABLISHED ACROSS ALBERTA</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •76% of agencies engage in conditions of collective impact. •89% of agencies indicated that their practice is enhanced as a result of collaboration.
<p>ORGANIZATIONS AND COMMUNITIES APPROACH DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IN EFFECTIVE AND INNOVATIVE WAYS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •94% of organizations and communities implemented new practices as a result of working with Sagesse. •90% of organizations and communities developed new narratives to approaching domestic violence.
<p>ORGANIZATIONS AND COMMUNITIES APPROACH DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IN EFFECTIVE AND INNOVATIVE WAYS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •76% of people who experienced domestic violence have increased internal capacity to cope. •98% of people who have experienced domestic violence have reliable and strong support.

Program Outputs

CAPACITY BUILDING AND EDUCATION OUTPUTS

The Rainbow Ready program and Real Talk (formally Stand By) workshops allow people to rethink the norms, attitudes, conceptions, perspectives, ideas and definitions surrounding domestic and sexual abuse in Alberta. This is the first step to prevention.

Real Talk is a customized workshop that teaches participants to recognize domestic violence, understand its impact on an individual and the community, and develop comfort in responding to domestic violence disclosures, including providing appropriate support and referrals to services. Nearly twice as many attendees received Real Talk training in 2019 compared to 2018.

Rainbow Ready is a capacity building program aimed at providing service providers and community agencies the knowledge and skills to provide safe, inclusive service to 2SLGBTQ+ individuals experiencing domestic violence.



CAPACITY BUILDING & EDUCATION



1,371 Informal Supporters attended **Stand By and REAL Talk** workshops



201 Rainbow Ready workshop attendees

COLLECTIVE IMPACT OUTPUTS

Sagesse is the backbone organization for IMPACT, the provincial domestic and sexual violence collective impact initiative and the Calgary Domestic Violence Collective. In this role, we work to eradicate violence in the province of Alberta before it starts.



**COLLECTIVE
IMPACT**

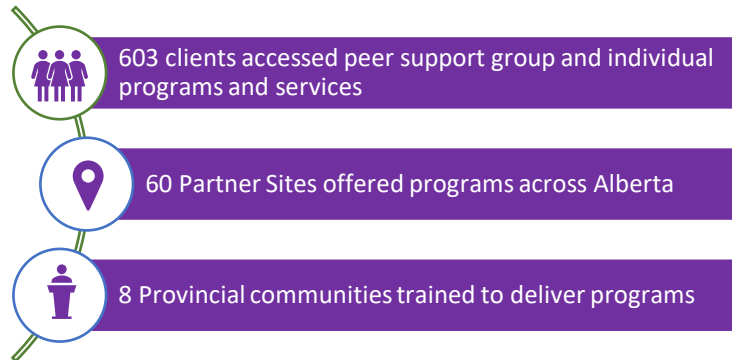


DIRECT SERVICE OUTPUTS

The direct service programs include peer support groups and mentorship for individuals who have experienced domestic violence, are at risk of being abused, or women that are involved in sex work. These programs are run in Calgary as well as in rural communities across the province.



**DIRECT
SERVICE**



Supporters

Our Volunteers

Working towards disrupting structures of violence takes dedicated individuals who have empathy for those experiencing domestic violence. Volunteers play an integral part in helping us fulfill our mission.

In 2019, over a hundred volunteers helped us facilitate groups, provide services, and raise awareness through their volunteer activities.

“Volunteering always makes me grateful for the experiences and opportunities I've had and continue to have in life. It helps me as much as it helps others.”

Sagesse volunteer



VOLUNTEER PROGRAM



141 volunteers



Over 4,000 volunteer hours

We thank our volunteers who donate their time and talent to empowering individuals experiencing domestic violence, it is because of our volunteers we can continue making impact on domestic violence across Alberta.

To our Donors, Sponsors, and Funders

As we aim to have a larger collective impact, our appreciation for your generous contributions towards our work grows. Your donations, both monetary and in-kind, have allowed us to expand and scale our programs to create substantial impact for those affected by violence. It is your various forms of support that allow Sagesse to thrive and grow our team of experts to help reach our goals.

Donors & Funders

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Koi
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Plant Shop
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Ranche Restaurant
Resolve Legal Group

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Rockies
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Thank you!