



**peers**

VICTORIA RESOURCES SOCIETY

# Executive Director's Report

It was great to have a year off from work to spend more time with my family. I am really grateful to Leah Shumka for doing such an excellent job directing the organization while I was gone. Although I was a little nervous about coming back to such a challenging - but very fulfilling - job, within a few days it felt very familiar. I feel very passionate about Peers, its unique contribution to the community, and the need for a better societal response to sex workers. As the year closes, I'd like to thank all the staff, volunteers and participants for making Peers a place of meaningful community support. I'd also like to thank the many donors who support Peers and stand behind our mandate to be an organization that advances a social justice framework rooted in sex workers' perspectives, alongside the provision of health and social services. We hope you enjoy our new picture-based newsletter format for this fall/winter edition. Happy holidays! -Rachel Phillips



It's that time of year again and we would love to have you consider Peers for your seasonal donation.



We appreciate wrapped items that can be used as gifts or toiletries or other donations of gently used winter clothes etc. You can also make cash donations here:

<http://www.safersexwork.ca/donate/>

or consider becoming a monthly volunteer here:

<http://www.safersexwork.ca/job-postings/volunteer/>

Please join us on Dec 17<sup>th</sup> at 2pm  
in Bastion Square for our  
Red Umbrella event.



More details on Facebook.  
Artwork shown here by Joni.



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Drop in facilitator Michelle stirring up some batter for birthday cupcakes as part of the drop in program!

Check out:  
**#sexworkstories**



Peers got a facelift! Thanks to all of the generous donors who took part in our Look Good/Feel Good campaign and made it possible for us to update the awning and front door signage. It looks fabulous and really freshens up the space.



Peers celebrates its 21st birthday surrounded by friends and family. Here's to another 21!!



UVic Indigenous Governance Program practicum student Rachelle making something delicious on our new stove! Thanks to Jessica Lake for the donation that made this possible.



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Here are some of the dogs who share their time with Peers: Buster, Roxy and Daisy! They bring a wonderful energy and friendliness to the space and participants absolutely love having them around.



Daisy and Peers program participant, Crystal sharing some love and treats.

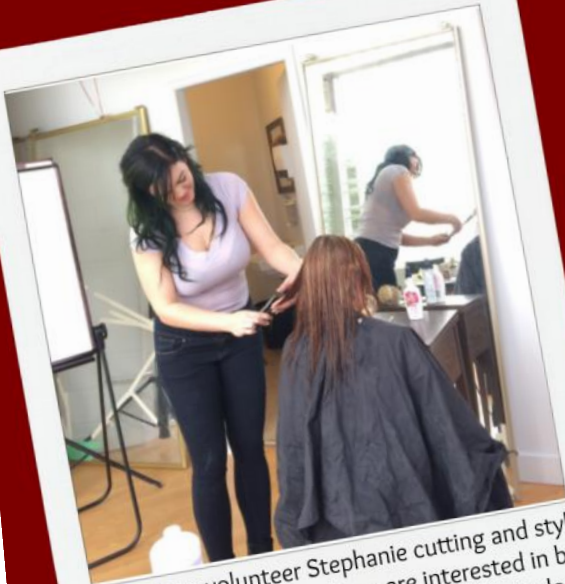


Buster and Roxy under the rainbow!



Celebrating Halloween at our family costume party. It was spooky and scary good time.

Check out:  
**#RedUmbrella**



Our fabulous volunteer Stephanie cutting and styling hair at Peers beauty day. If you are interested in being a volunteer stylist or have beauty products to donate, please contact Miranda at [admin@peers.bc.ca](mailto:admin@peers.bc.ca).



Participants in our bi-monthly night time health education classes offered in the Rock Bay region thanks to classroom space offered by Trees Dispensary.



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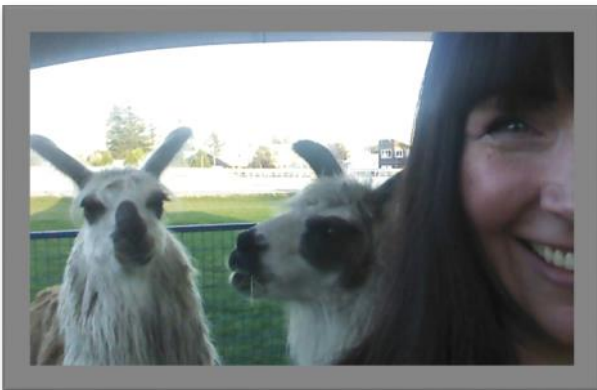
The Odd Fellows Lodge Bastion #4 hosted an Odd-toberfest celebration and fundraiser on October 15 in honour of Peers. The Foxy Box Wax Bar joined the fun by donating \$2 from every service during the month of October to Peers. Together they raised over \$6500! Huge thanks to the Odd Fellows Bastion #4 and all those who attended this wonderful and fun event!



Executive Director, Leah Shumka at the presentation of the \$6575 cheque from the event! Thank you Odd Fellows!



### Bella, Jannit Rabinovitch Memorial Fund:



“To me Peers means community, acceptance, strength, esteem and possibilities. I have been held together by this place at times. It has helped me understand myself in a compassionate way. Over the years Peers has given me all kinds of supports from medical appointments to classes, counselling, help with housing, a group camping trip, lunches, beauty days, really good coffee, loyal friends. Now with an award from the Jannit Rabinovitch Memorial Fund I will be able to attend a certificate class and gain specialized skills to support my new business venture in 2017. I have deep gratitude to everyone who plays a part in making this possible. Blessings, love and respect, thank you! - Bella”



Volunteer artist Kay and board member Sadie decorate the Peers space with beautiful hand painted murals.





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**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**I want to support *Peers Victoria Resources Society* through donations.**

**Donation type:**

\_\_\_ **One time** \_\_\_ **Monthly**

**If monthly, please debit my bank account: (*attach VOID cheque*)**

\_\_\_ **\$20** \_\_\_ **\$50** \_\_\_ **\$75** or **Other Amount** \_\_\_\_\_ (specify)

*The debit will be processed to your account on the 16th day of each month or the next business day.*

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Donor Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

**This donation is made on behalf of:** \_\_\_\_\_ **an Individual** \_\_\_\_\_ **a Business**

I may revoke my authorization for pre-authorized donations at any time, subject to providing notice of 10 days. Cancellation can be done by emailing [finance@peers.bc.ca](mailto:finance@peers.bc.ca) or by phoning the number below.

PEERS Victoria Resources Society  
1-744 Fairview Rd  
Victoria, BC V9A 5T9  
Tel: 250-388-5325  
E-mail: [finance@peers.bc.ca](mailto:finance@peers.bc.ca)

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