



ANNUAL  
REPORT

20  
20



Year End, December 31st 2020

# OUR MESSAGE TO OUR COMMUNITY

Dear YMCA of Lethbridge Community,

What a year 2020 was.

As we reflect on the early years of our organization and the challenges our forebearers faced, the term that comes to mind about their experience is resilience. The YMCA of Lethbridge had been established for just eight years when the Spanish flu pandemic hit in 1918. Despite the challenges that we can imagine that pandemic created, the organization has survived and thrived for another 103 years. We have adapted to the needs of the Lethbridge community through that pandemic, famine, world wars, changing societal values and again in 2020, another pandemic. The YMCA, just like Lethbridge, is resilient.

Resilience is not where we'd normally look to find stories of growth, however, growth is not always in numbers of members or child care participants, swim lessons delivered or fitness classes sweat through. It can come in the form of being adaptable, finding new ways of delivering service to the community, and taking advantage of opportunities as they arise.

The Cor Van Raay YMCA had been open to the public a mere 10 months and had grown to over 10,000 health, fitness and aquatics members when, like most organizations and businesses in Alberta, we were required to close this location and our off site childcare centres due to the fast-growing COVID-19 pandemic on Sunday, March 15, 2020.

Throughout 2020 our team learned to adapt quickly to the ever-evolving restrictions and health orders – something that is continuing today, in early winter 2021. With the majority of our employees on temporary layoff, we were able to deliver an evolving suite of programs that allowed members and the public to participate safely. Our remaining employees were able to change their focus, brainstorm new ways of delivering programs and continue to make a positive impact in the community. Four examples of this are;

- Innovatively reconfiguring program spaces in our child care centres and the Cor Van Raay YMCA to allow for required physical distancing and meet participant demand
- Providing virtual training for members who preferred access from the comfort of home
- Rental of fitness equipment for use at home and,
- Implementing the Y at Home online resource for fitness, training, community, wellness and children's activities for no cost to all community members

These programs and services have been extremely well received by YMCA members and the Lethbridge community. Moreover, our extraordinary members showed grace and patience as we worked to serve them safely and to the YMCA's high standard under changing operating conditions such as physical distancing, mask wearing and enhanced sanitation. While our capacity to serve members under these models has been difficult, the feedback we have received has been a reflective of their appreciation. One member told us, "What a smart way to do it! Great way of thinking outside the box to make everyone safer." To paraphrase another member, "Just a big compliment how you've been handling things through the pandemic and with the rental of equipment... Mental health is so important and this truly helped my daughter and daughter-in-law... Hang in there, the end of this virus is in sight!"

Our resilience proved to be a positive for child care as well with our employees adapting to new safety standards and welcoming children back to our centres after being closed for several months in 2020. Importantly, we were able to use the pandemic restrictions to expand and strengthen our child care offering in ways we didn't anticipate when we began the year.

In terms of growing our capacity to serve more community members, YMCA Redwood Child Care Centre stands out as an exceptional success. When we acquired this facility in February 2020 we had planned to take a phased approach to renovating it. However, due to pandemic-related closures, our team accelerated and consolidated the renovation plan to complete everything in one phase. The result was a completely renovated facility built to YMCA standards. Construction crews gutted this centre and replaced nearly everything in the building resulting in a modern, new environment for children aged 12 months to five years to experience YMCA Playing to Learn Curriculum. The addition of Redwood Child Care Centre in South Lethbridge adds a vital link to YMCA programming for those surrounding communities. The acquisition increased our child care capacity by 30 per cent with the addition of 44 new spaces and marks our third child care expansion in three years.

The past year was not without its hardships. In particular we would like to recognize and thank our employees for their resilience as we temporarily laid off most of them in March 2020, then recalled many only to have to complete another round of temporary layoffs in December. Closing the Health Fitness and Aquatics facilities at the Cor Van Raay YMCA twice affected many of our employees and their families in a significant way. We're grateful for their contributions and look forward to working alongside them all as we reintroduce programs and services in 2021.

Our members have been tremendously patient through the pandemic as well and we are appreciative of the thousands of members who have chosen to stick with us since the pandemic impacted our operations.

Thank you to our Board of Directors, staff, volunteers, funders, donors, community partners and YMCA members for your unwavering support during one of the most challenging years for our organization and the community as a whole. We are genuinely excited to see what 2021 will bring given the outstanding resilience and strength demonstrated in 2020. We will continue to deliver our mission while adapting our programs and services in new ways to meet the needs of the Lethbridge area community, hopefully for at least the next 103 years to come.



Jennifer Petracek-Kolb,  
Chief Executive Officer



Jillian Chaffee,  
Board Chair





**A DRIVING FORCE IN BRINGING US TOGETHER**

# RESILIENCE

For single parent Jen Durell and her children, the YMCA of Lethbridge has become a place for friends and family to grow together. It's also fuelled a special passion in her son.

"When I first signed up, I did not expect that the YMCA would become such a solid part of our lives."

With so many opportunities from which to choose, time at the YMCA has become a process of discovery since they joined in spring 2019.

"We had used the pool, gym and fieldhouse. Then I discovered the programs," says Jen.

Those programs would fuel a passion for basketball in her son, Declan, 8.

"Right from day one when we started, Declan was overjoyed. We couldn't be happier with the programs and the people." Jen continued, "For the first time, he has friends in an after-school activity. He has role models and mentors in the instructors. He has blossomed."

It's not just Declan who has been impacted by the YMCA.

Jen participates in group fitness classes, workouts in the gym and walks on the track. Her daughter, Kahleah, 12 enjoys the pool with friends, often calling home to ask about staying later. As a family,

they enjoy the pool and field house, often with friends as well.

"I grew up in a small community and we didn't have these opportunities growing up. Every single time it's been amazingly positive and welcoming."

While Kahleah participates in dance, many other sports and programs are out of reach for Jen and her family. However, thanks to the YMCA of Lethbridge offering subsidized membership, participation at the Cor Van Raay YMCA is affordable.

"Being a single parent of two, funds can be tight. We're grateful for the low income support and reduced cost of membership."

While pandemic closures have paused many group activities, the impact of the YMCA has been clear.

"The YMCA has been a driving force not only in our physical health but the mental health of our family and our relationship with each other and our friends."

Importantly, Declan is excited to return to basketball soon.

## HELPING MIND, BODY AND SPIRIT

Since she was 16 years old Amanda\* has been a member of the YMCA and for the past five, a donor, helping build the physical, mental and spiritual health of the Lethbridge community. As a nurse, she recognizes the impact the YMCA can have.

"In my personal work as a nurse you see a lot of breakdown in mental health. By being involved in sports or physical activity programs, you have people looking out for kids and being role models and mentors for them. Physical activity is a huge part of mental health."

Another component of the mental health picture is connection. Amanda loves the YMCA because it's personal. Staff and volunteers know her by name and the programs add value to her life.

"Y programs connect people. It's a holistic approach to health be it physical, emotional and spiritual that the Y really encompasses," she says.

Having travelled and volunteered as a nurse in developing countries, Amanda sees how other cultures are kind and giving despite having little.

"Other people are generous with their time and money and they're so happy. It's in us to give. It's our duty."

Amanda donates to the YMCA to reduce barriers to access for programs that impact the lives of children and youth across Lethbridge.

"If we can eliminate even a small percentage of mental health struggles facing kids, it's a success."

\*Amanda's name has been changed as she wishes for her contributions to be anonymous.

**Resilience is based on compassion for ourselves as well as compassion for others.**

- Sharon Salzberg



# IMPACT AREAS & GOALS

2020 - 2023

## 1. GROWTH

People living in Southern Alberta are stronger, more vibrant, resilient and engaged because of the YMCA.

Children, youth and adults are more confident and competent in leading healthy lives. Older adults live longer and have healthier life expectancies. Youth in our community are reaching their full potential.

## 2. COMMUNITY

The community is served by a healthy and thriving YMCA.

Staff and volunteers are committed and engaged. The YMCA meets and exceeds measures of operational excellence in order to minimize risk and maintain a positive contribution. Governance leadership is informed and engaged, stewarding an exceptional YMCA.

## 3. INCLUSION

There is a culture of belonging and inclusion within the diverse communities of Southern Alberta.

Everyone is welcome and has the opportunity to participate at the Y. People engaged in the Y feel connected to each other and their community. There are more opportunities because the Y is a trusted collaborator in the community.

## CORE VALUES:

At the center of all we do are our core values. We actively encourage our participants, staff and volunteers to embrace and demonstrate them.



In March 2020, the Board of Directors approved a new strategic plan for the YMCA of Lethbridge. This plan was the result of many months of planning by board members and senior managers, establishing the vision for new priorities through to 2023.

## MISSION:

The YMCA of Lethbridge is a community serving charity where children, youth and adults enrich spirit, mind, body and a sense of belonging.

## VISION FOR IMPACT:

A healthy, engaged community where everyone belongs and thrives.



# 50 YEARS OF COMMUNITY COMMITMENT

Jerry Brown - Member, Volunteer & Friend

For Jerry Brown, the YMCA has become “a second home.” After more than 50 years of volunteering, we agree. Back in 1967, Jerry was encouraged to lift weights at the YMCA after he broke his leg. By 1970, he started down a life-long path of giving back when he was asked if he’d consider teaching swim lessons as a volunteer.

“I had no knowledge of swimming or teaching,” says Jerry. “So I went and got my certifications.”

Jerry expanded his aquatic certifications to include diving and synchronized swimming.

“I was one of two males in the class, but I got my first three stars of synchronized swimming and my instructor’s certification. I thought, if the kids have to do this, I gotta learn how to teach it.”

Jerry went on to teach thousands of people of all ages from Parent and Tot Swim to Adult Beginner before retiring from the pool in 1995.

In 1976, at the height of the disco era, Jerry taught Ladies Disco Fitness with a curated a playlist to match. His playlists began on LP records, then mixed tapes and on to CDs and finally digital music players. Jerry still is known to bring his own boombox to class to make sure his music sounds exactly as it should.

At his peak in 1985, Jerry would volunteer his time to teach between 15 to 20 classes per week, all while working full time for the City of Lethbridge.

Volunteering took on a new personal connection when Jerry learned in the late

1980s that he had adopted maternal siblings. Fate would have it that Jerry’s sister was a regular in one of his fitness classes. She would also become a volunteer and become a board member of the YMCA of Lethbridge.

Celebrating 25 years of volunteering at the YMCA in 1995, Jerry was interviewed by the Lethbridge Herald where he stated that he expected to retire in a few years.

“I hope to finish off the century as a volunteer, work until 2001 and then say goodbye.”

Fast-forward to today and Jerry retired from the City of Lethbridge in 2016, but is still with the YMCA.

“I retired at 65 but I kept going at the YMCA.” says Jerry, “I’ve got to keep on teaching. I had a hip replacement two and a half years ago and my knees are shot so getting on the floor is a struggle, but I can still do a 45-minute walking class.” He continues, “I want to be teaching when I’m 90 so I got 18 more years to go.”

With a remarkable track record of resilience and service to the YMCA community, Jerry offers advice to those who want to get started, “Go have some fun. You will meet so many different people. Just enjoy it.”

Power Walking is the class where you’ll find Jerry volunteering today.

No one knows exactly how many classes he’s taught over the years, but based on his schedule, we estimate Jerry has taught more than 13,000 classes since 1970. He’s on track to teach another 1,800 classes before his 90th birthday. Thanks Jerry!



## Rentals, Virtual Training & Adjusted Operations



What happens when members can’t come to the YMCA because of a global pandemic? The YMCA adapts and comes to the members!

Throughout 2020 the team at YMCA of Lethbridge showed incredible adaptability while we were unable to offer in-person access to Cor Van Raay YMCA or our Child Care Centres.

Recognising the benefits of an active lifestyle for members, we offered fitness equipment rental packages that were expertly crafted by our certified personal trainers to ensure access to a complete workout for individuals and families of varying levels of fitness, skill and familiarity with equipment.

For members who wanted to take their wellness goals to the next level, we began offering virtual personal training online from the comfort of the member’s home.

In Child Care, we adapted our operations to include enhanced cleaning practices, and separation of children into cohorts where appropriate. Quickly and safely re-opening the Cor Van Raay YMCA to members not once, but twice during the year also showcased how creative, innovative thinking could help as many members access the facility as was deemed safe by Alberta Health Services.

While these situations don’t represent normal operations of the YMCA, they do reflect the adaptability and resilience of the YMCA team to face challenges head on.







# YMCA Redwood Child Care Centre

## GROWTH IN CHILD CARE

The YMCA of Lethbridge significantly expanded its child care presence in the community with the acquisition of Redwood Child Care Centre on the Southside in February 2020. This marks the third expansion of YMCA Child Care in two years and an increase in capacity of approximately one third.

The facility was in need of a complete renovation. Fortunately, we were prepared thanks to \$150,000 in YMCA Community Reserve Funds and \$250,000 in Community Campaign Donations to acquire, renovate and furnish the facility.

We were able to accelerate our renovation timeline due to child care closures related to the COVID-19 pandemic. Over the summer, construction crews were able to fully update the facility to our high standards of care and safety.

The result is access to quality YMCA Playing to Learn curriculum for 44 children from ages 12 months to 5 years old.



Some children attended the old Redwood Child Care Centre and their parents are pleased with the improvements!



**144**  
YMCA Child  
Care Spaces

\*post renovation re-opening

Though many challenges were faced this year, we remained committed to serving the Lethbridge community by adjusting our programming and providing health, wellness and fitness options while adhering to AHS guidelines laid out by the Government of Alberta.

# THE NUMBERS:

The Cor Van Raay YMCA at ATB Centre

DEC 31, 2019	FEB 1, 2020	DEC 31, 2020	
8,822	10,486	4,091	Total Members
685	721	356	Youth
3,453	4,077	1,926	Adults
4,244	4,462	1,310	Families
162	210	82	Seniors

  

YEAR END, DEC 31, 2020			
373	Single Memberships Fees Received	Financial Assistance	
782	Family Memberships Fees Received	Financial Assistance	
\$75,421.03	Value Of Financial Assistance Provided		
18,230	Day Passes Users		
109	Participants In All Registered Programs		
180	Participants Using Children's Indoor Play		
173	Participants Using Youth Centre		
103	Participants Using Registered Child Care		
1,109	Child Minding Visits		
128	Total Number Of Community Rentals		



# YMCA of Lethbridge

## Statement of Financial Position

### As at December 31

#### ASSETS

Current	2020	2019	2018
Cash	2,719,155	2,695,144	1,534,791
Accounts Receivable	256,645	157,051	329,397
Inventory	-	-	202
Prepaid Expenses	32,700	32,469	183,797
GST Receivable	149	-	9,413
	3,008,649	2,884,664	2,057,600
Long Term Investments	994,366	33,774	29,337
Funds Held in Trust	-	150,000	2,710,473
Capital Assets	3,548,503	3,664,479	1,025,780
	7,551,518	6,732,917	5,823,190

#### LIABILITIES/NET ASSETS

Current	2020	2019	2018
Accounts Payable and Accrued Liabilities	442,800	417,708	120,650
Due to the City of Lethbridge	957,919	832,222	-
Deferred Revenue	1,157,710	1,284,814	4,561,047
Deposits	22,600	20,300	-
Current Portion of Callable Debt	-	-	12,989
GST Payable	-	10,075	-
	2,581,029	2,565,119	4,694,686
Callable Debt	-	-	29,313
	2,581,029	2,565,119	4,723,999
Deferred Capital Contributions	3,261,744	3,638,012	741,588
	5,842,773	6,203,131	5,465,587
Net Assets			
Unrestricted Net Assets	837,212	116,703	86,374
Net Assets Invested in Capital Assets	286,759	29,309	241,892
Net Assets Restricted for Endowment Purposes	34,774	33,774	29,337
Net Assets Internally Restricted	550,000	350,000	-
	1,708,745	529,786	357,603
	7,551,518	6,732,917	5,823,190

# YMCA of Lethbridge

## Operations Statement

### For the Year Ended December 31

REVENUE	2020	2019	2018 4 MONTH PERIOD
Covid-19 Supports	2,120,192	-	-
Grants and Contributions	1,739,870	2,187,593	291,202
Memberships	1,435,982	2,290,822	306,646
Programs	778,507	843,202	33,606
Day Passes	301,431	557,377	14,030
Facility Rent	67,651	170,247	29,738
Strong Kids Campaign Donation Revenue	41,307	155,534	18,364
Sponsorship Income	30,000	-	-
GST Revenue	27,335	17,119	1,460
Food Services and Merchandise	5,893	17,232	917
Total Revenue	6,548,168	6,239,126	695,963

EXPENSES	2020	2019	2018 4 MONTH PERIOD
Salaries and Related Benefits	4,496,415	4,640,591	514,121
Office and Telephone	195,271	294,742	33,613
Repairs and Maintenance	168,996	179,970	33,131
Program Supplies	117,521	162,826	9,418
Rent	111,882	36,381	5,866
Accounting and Legal	87,293	58,631	16,310
Staff and Volunteer Development	78,696	93,294	8,622
Interest and Bank Charges	61,864	85,993	7,799
Affiliation Fees and Dues	59,111	52,346	19,044
Advertising	40,042	81,086	11,447
Insurance	29,453	28,720	8,646
Utilities	8,963	68,291	45,061
Philanthropic Development	6,814	729	-
Bad Debt Expense	709	-	-
Strong Kids Campaign	144	3,355	804
Community Foundation Donation	-	65,242	-
Merchandise	-	9,614	666
Casino Expense	-	1,475	-
Crossings Readiness	-	-	57,786
Total Expenses	5,463,174	5,863,286	772,334

OTHER REVENUE/EXPENSES	2020	2019	2018 4 MONTH PERIOD
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenue Over Expenses Before the Following Items	1,084,994	375,840	(76,371)
Amortization of Capital Contributions	618,882	398,849	28,198
Investment Income	67,804	34,585	68
Amortization	(641,972)	(401,688)	(44,671)
Realized Gain (Loss) on Disposition of Investment	(744)	4,437	-
Unrealized Gain (Loss) on Investments	60,544	-	(2,270)
Loss on Disposition of Capital Assets	(3,463)	(239,840)	(6,049)
Management Fees on Investments	(7,256)	-	-
Gain on Sale of Marketable Securities	170	-	-
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenue Over Expenses	1,178,959	172,183	(101,095)

\*The report includes selected financial information extracted from statement audited by BDO Canada LLP.  
Complete financial statements are available at [www.lethbridgeymca.ca](http://www.lethbridgeymca.ca)



# Thank You

## to all of our Strong Kids 2020 Donors

In 2020, the YMCA was able to offer no cost Summer Day Camps to families impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic as a result of \$15,000 in funding provided by the Government of Canada's Emergency Community Support Fund and Community Foundation of Lethbridge and Southwestern Alberta.

Adam Kruk  
Adam McDonald  
Adele Hallaway  
Adele Royer  
Aiden Johnson  
Allison Aos  
Allure Detailing Solutions  
Alyssa Aikema  
Amanda Paskuski  
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Jim Stewart  
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Ashley Walker

Henry Brooks  
Vivien Kossuth  
Lisa Lambert  
Chris Lastiwka

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Megan Skelly  
Gillian Garrett  
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Matthew Salmon  
Roy Pogorzelski



Charity Registration Number:  
11924 2030 RR 0001



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