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Today  Tomorrow
Learning Society

2024-2025 ANNUAL REPORT

We're building family in community

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Vision

An inclusive atmosphere where children and families feel respected, encouraged, and able to fulfill their potential.



Mission

To cultivate a safe, supportive and nurturing learning environment. To strengthen community one family at a time through connection, quality caregiving, and parenting support.



History

The Today 'N' Tomorrow Learning Society (TNTLS) has been delivering the Young Parent Program in School District 71 since 1993 when it was originally called Teddies 'N' Toddlers. It is a small not for profit organization whose goal is to support parenting students in completing their high school education. The Society now oversees four initiatives: Today 'N'Tomorrow Young Parent Program, Teddies 'N' Toddlers Childcare Centre (birth-3 years), Lake Trail Childcare Centre (birth -3 years) and, Little Friends Early Learning Centre (3-5years). These programs are accessible to all families with a priority for young parents completing high school and/or college education, those employed and/or families needing assistance through the Ministry of Children and Family Development.

2024-2025 Statistics

2,349

Fundraising Dollars

15

of Families Receiving Affordable Childcare Benefit

5

of Young Parent Families Supported

% of TNTLS Funding from Minsitry

82

Families Served this Past Year

82

of SD71 Participants

124

Grants

\$41,335

of Community Partnerships

36

of Practicum & Workplace Experience Placements

31

732

Pro D Hours

of Teacher Professional Development Hours:

643

of Books Read to Littles

11,640

\$10,915

Donations in Kind

11,250

of Outdoor Hours Playtime/Child Each

of Families on Our Waitlist

1,303



We would like to acknowledge our 2024-2025 Volunteer Board of Directors:



ZOE CAMPBELL, HEATHER MORRISON, THOMAS DARGIE, KRISTINA
GILCHRIST, BENTON DORMAN AND TIMOTHY HORNER

Thank You!

Directors Report

KRISTINA GILCHRIST
CHAIR, BOARD OF DIRECTORS

It's once again that time of the year for our Annual General Meeting. I'd like to extend a heartfelt thank you to my fellow board members for their invaluable contributions and unwavering support throughout the past year. We remain a relatively small team, and have continued to meet regularly to stay updated, work on policy changes and strategic planning framework.

We are thrilled to announce that the construction of our new facility has commenced. This is a significant milestone for us. We are excited about the opportunities this new building will bring to our organization and the community.

As a board member, I am proud to align my values with those of TNTLS. It is an honor to be part of an organization that provides a safe and nurturing learning environment and is dedicated to strengthening family connections within our community.

The TNTLS board of directors serves as an oversight board. Our responsibilities extend beyond overseeing the financial management of the organization; we are also committed to practicing good governance. This entails fostering trust, accountability, transparency, and maintaining regular communication with our Executive Director. We are currently seeking to expand our board of directors' team. If you support the mission and work of TNTLS, can collaborate effectively in a team, communicate well, and are willing to dedicate some of your time to fulfill the responsibilities of a director, please reach out to me. I can be contacted via email at kristinagilchrist@hotmail.com.

Join us in making a difference! By becoming a board member, you will have the opportunity to contribute to the strategic direction of TNTLS, help shape policies and ensure the continued success of our programs. Your involvement will be instrumental in driving our mission forward and making a positive impact on our community. I look forward to hearing from you.

Here's to another successful year of learning and growing!

- Kristina



STRATEGIC GOALS



Lead the way in quality childcare, rooted in current practices



Nurture the Young Parent program



Build community connection

OPERATION OBJECTIVES



Obtain charitable status to raise funds for future projects such as new playgrounds



Work alongside SD71 to construct a new purpose built facility to enhance our program offerings



Foster the spirit of Truth and Reconciliation in all of our programs and interactions



Continue to invest in our teachers through education and professional development while being Canadian leaders of the RIE philosophy

Overview From the Executive Director

NATALIE ROBINSON
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Our community is thriving—and so are we! This past year, we've welcomed more young families than ever before, expanded our team to 23 dedicated teachers, and deepened our commitment to supporting young parents and their children. I'm excited to share all the incredible progress and updates in this year's Annual Report.

Every year, we work to strengthen our individualized support for young parents, while continuing to enrich our childcare programming with an EDUCARING approach. At the same time, we strive to be the best employer we can be in the childcare sector. Through this work, we aim to uplift not just families, but the entire Comox Valley community.

A huge highlight this year has been Sharyn Stokes stepping into the full-time role of Lead Supervisor, and progressing to Acting Childcare Manager to cover Rebecca Kleinman's maternity leave. Calling her an asset doesn't begin to cover it—her leadership and consistency have made a tremendous impact. Sharyn continues to meet the diverse needs of our families with care and dedication, all while supporting the organization with her incredible calm approach and consistent mentorship to our team.

We've also deepened our investment in our teachers and programs. From a wide range of workshops to cultural learning experiences, we've grown in areas like mental wellness, team-building, and conflict resolution. Our journey toward truth and reconciliation continues through our ongoing work with Daryle Mills—Night Sun Bear, and the Aboriginal Resource and Referral Network, as well as monthly cultural kits from the Qualicum First Nations, which our team has truly embraced.

This year, we were proud to increase teacher wages and secure additional grants and funding for professional development. We've also continued to support the Board in strategic planning and initiatives that strengthen all our programs and our Society as a whole.

To our board members, staff, supporters, and entire membership—thank you. Your dedication and advocacy make everything we do possible. Here's to the continued success of the Today 'N' Tomorrow Learning Society, and to building an even brighter future together.

If you'd like to share feedback, suggestions, or simply connect, don't hesitate to reach out at [\(250\) 338-8445](tel:250-338-8445) or ed@tntl.com

- Natalie



TNTLS Childcare Programs

REBECCA KLEINMAN
CHILDCARE MANAGER

It has been another active year for recruitment and staffing, with several outstanding additions to our teaching team. We welcomed six new educators, including one who completed their ECE practicum placement with us, an encouraging reflection of the high-quality training and supportive environment we offer to students pursuing careers in childcare. During the same period, four educators left for various reasons, with an additional three who are currently on maternity leave.

Our Lake Trail Childcare Centre will celebrate its third anniversary this October and is now operating at full capacity, with both programs in the building fully open. Feedback from families continues to be overwhelmingly positive, highlighting the strong relationships our team has fostered with both children and their families. This same standard of excellence is reflected at our Vanier locations, reinforcing that Today 'n' Tomorrow Learning Society remains a leading choice for families seeking high-quality childcare in the Comox Valley.

We remain committed to fostering leadership and professional growth within our team, which has included several updates to our internal management structure. Each of our centres continuing to benefit from dedicated site supervisors: Amber Ferguson at Little Friends, Rae Schinbein at Teddies and Toddlers, and Jillian Delucry, now the site supervisor at Lake Trail.

A key update to Rae and Jillian's roles is their ability to float between both the infant and toddler programs, rather than being assigned to one while supporting the other. This change has proven to be extremely effective, allowing for more flexible, responsive leadership and ensures more consistent support across both programs.

The introduction of team leader roles at both locations has been highly beneficial. Angela Walker is now the team leader at our Teddies and Toddlers location, while Heidi Parkin fulfills this role at Lake Trail. Both provide valuable support to their respective site supervisors, contributing to the smooth day-to-day operation of each centre. Our site supervisors and team leaders continue to play a vital role in maintaining high standards, both through their leadership and their direct, hands-on involvement on the floor. Their dedication and hard work are deeply appreciated.

In March 2025, I, Sharyn Stokes, stepped into the role of Childcare Manager while Rebecca Kleinman is away on maternity leave. The transition has gone smoothly, thanks to the incredible support of our staff and the thoughtful onboarding process that was in place. I feel truly fortunate about the opportunity to step into this role and to be part of such a supportive, collaborative team that remains deeply focused on working together.

- Sharyn



Young Parent Program

AINSLIE PATTESON
YOUNG PARENT PROGRAM COORDINATOR

This year was one of steady growth and renewed energy, supported by a consistent and dedicated staff team in the Young Parent Program. A highlight was our partnership with the Comox Valley Child Development Association to offer the Circle of Security parenting course. The series was well-attended and provided space for our young parents to reflect on their parenting approaches while building connection and community with others navigating similar challenges and milestones.

We were excited to celebrate one young parent reaching a major milestone by obtaining their N driver's license. With public transit in the Comox Valley being limited and often unreliable, access to personal transportation represents a meaningful step toward long-term independence. It opens up the ability to attend school, secure food, access healthcare, and maintain social connection.

Throughout the year we made time to celebrate seasonal holidays, personal milestones, and group accomplishments. These informal gatherings offered moments of levity and joy, but also played an important role in deepening relationships, building peer mentorship, and reinforcing self-worth. By showing up consistently, we're able to create the trust that is necessary to support our young parents as they navigate the complex terrain of early parenthood.

While we didn't have any graduates this year, we saw strong engagement in both the program and in school. Our participants maintained consistent and, in many cases, increased attendance. This contributed to a successful academic year overall. We're proud of the momentum building within the group and look forward to supporting their continued progress toward graduation in the coming year.

Looking ahead, we're excited about the transformation on the horizon as construction begins on the new building that will house a dedicated Young Parent Program room, complete with its very own kitchen. This purpose-built space will give us even more opportunity to foster connection, grow programming, and provide a warm and welcoming environment tailored to the needs of our young families.

- Ainslie





The best teachers teach
 from the heart.
 You teach with love and effort and
 energy that draws in every student.
 Words can't express how you have
 helped shape the many little souls
 in our care and supported our
 families each day.



*Thank you for
 all that you do.*



A Special Thank You!

Candace

We are deeply grateful to have had the support of Candace this year. She played an instrumental role in helping us achieve registered charity status, a milestone that will shape our future in meaningful ways. In addition to her time and expertise in guiding us through this process, Candace also spent time in the kitchen with our young parents, cooking alongside them and building connections in such a warm and practical way. Her contributions have not only strengthened our organization, but have also created moments of learning and community for the families we serve. It has been such a gift to work alongside her.



CVCPA

A special thank you to the dedicated professionals at the Comox Valley Child Development Association – Marika Gould at Supported Child Development, Jennifer McInnes with the Infant Development Program, and the team of other child specialists who have generously shared their time and expertise with us. From Speech and Language Pathology to Physiotherapy and Occupational Therapy, their visits to our centres have offered invaluable guidance and support. The care and knowledge they bring not only strengthen the work we do with children but also provide reassurance and encouragement for the families we serve.



Special Recognition

OUR FACILITIES WOULD NOT BE THE SAME WITHOUT THE CONTINUED CARE AND ATTENTION EACH YEAR FROM OUR HARDWORKING SCHOOL DISTRICT 71 MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT.

TNTLS also gratefully recognizes all of our donors, supporters and volunteers. We acknowledge the financial support from the Province of British Columbia, the Ministry of Education and Childcare, the Ministry of Children and Family Development.

The following are some of our many partnerships and sponsors:

- Innov8 Digital Solutions
- Pathways to Healing
- Beaufort Cycles
- Thrifty Foods
- Lifelong Learning Society
- Value Village
- Home Depot
- Mackenzie Gartside & Associates
- CVCDA
- Hands Carpentry
- Creative Employment
- Pilon Tools and Rentals
- Qualicum First Nations
- Lunar Photography
- Design Therapy Inc.
- Coastal Community Credit Union
- U-Drive Driving School
- Erik Hedley
- ECPN
- Scholastic Canada

