

Big Sisters of BC Lower Mainland
2010 Annual Report

50th
ANNIVERSARY
MENTORING GIRLS
SINCE 1960

2010 ~ Our 50th Anniversary

Celebrating 50 years of mentoring
girls in the Lower Mainland.

Painting done by a Little Sister, age 9.



**Big Sisters
of BC Lower Mainland**



Table of Contents

- Page 3.....Agency Message
- Page 4.....Who We Are
- Page 5.....A 50 Year Milestone
- Page 6.....Our Programs
- Page 7.....Impact of Mentoring
- Page 8.....2010 Highlights
- Page 9.....Financial Highlights
- Page 10.....Patrons' Circle
- Pages 11-14...Financial Statements

2010 Board of Directors*

Kay Gray, Chair • Heather Holden, Vice Chair • Margaret Voth, Treasurer • Cali Mancina, Secretary • Morna Creedon, Director • Gayla DeHart, Director • Stephanie Hayes, Director • Michele Holwill, Director • Martina Lee, Director • Jennifer Trost, Director • Shauna Wilton, Director
**As of the April 2010 Annual General Meeting*

Honourary Advisory Board

Catherine Aczel Boivie • Janet Austin • Joanne Brown • Charmaine Crooks • Ed Des Roches • Jill Diamond • Lisa Ethans • Marguerite Ford • Rina Honderich • Sarah McNeill • Tracey McVicar • Susan Mendelson • Renate M. Mueller • Katie O'Brien • Linda Parsons • Marina Pratchett • Patricia Shields • Denise Turner • Roz Wishinski



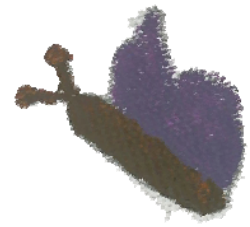
Big Sisters of BC Lower Mainland

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Charitable Registration No. 11880 9409 RR 0001

Programming generously supported by:





Kay Gray, Board Chair

We are pleased to present Big Sisters of BC Lower Mainland’s Annual Report and selected information from the audited financial statements for the year ended December 31st, 2010.

2010 was an exciting year of celebrations and successes for our organization. We were thrilled to celebrate our agency’s 50th Anniversary and reflect upon the outstanding support we have received since 1960 to reach this milestone. Thanks to our volunteers and donors, we were able to grow our programs by 14% in 2010, and serve a record 593 girls with a mentor.



Shannon Newman-Bennett, Executive Director

2010 also presented us with challenges, including increased referrals of Little Sisters, a decline in volunteers, and reduced government funding. In spite of these challenges, thanks to community support, we were able to increase our service delivery and grow each of our three core mentoring programs: the Big and Little Sister Program; the Study Buddy Program; and Go Girls! Healthy Bodies Healthy Minds.

We remain committed to our vision of providing a mentor to every girl who needs one. We currently have 180 girls on our waiting list, so our focus in the year ahead will be on finding these girls the mentor they deserve, and providing them with the support they need. Although we know this will be a challenge, we never doubt what can be accomplished with the committed support of our community.

Thank you all for the investment you have made in Big Sisters of BC Lower Mainland. By supporting our organization, you have invested in our girls, and the impact of that investment has limitless possibilities.

Kay Gray
Board Chair

Shannon Newman-Bennett
Executive Director





About Us

Since 1960, Big Sisters of BC Lower Mainland has been providing mentoring programs to girls in Lower Mainland communities. Our programs provide girls, ages 7 to 17, with positive, adult female role models.

We serve the communities of **Burnaby, Coquitlam, Delta, New Westminister, North Vancouver, Port Coquitlam, Port Moody, Richmond, Surrey, Vancouver, and West Vancouver.**

Big Sisters of BC Lower Mainland is an accredited member agency of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Canada (www.bbbsc.ca) and has strong commitments to mentoring and child safety.

Our Little Sisters

Little Sisters are girls between the ages of 7 and 17 who are interested in developing a friendship with a caring adult woman. They come from a wide variety of backgrounds and family situations including single and dual parent families and foster care.

Little Sisters may suffer from low self-esteem, social isolation or a lack of enriching experiences as a result of poverty, family distress, recent immigration or other challenges. They are referred to us by their families, schools, and helping professionals.

Pillars of Success

1. Serving more girls throughout the Lower Mainland.
2. Delivering the highest quality programming to our Little Sisters and volunteer mentors.
3. Maximizing sustainable resource development.
4. Building influence in the community.

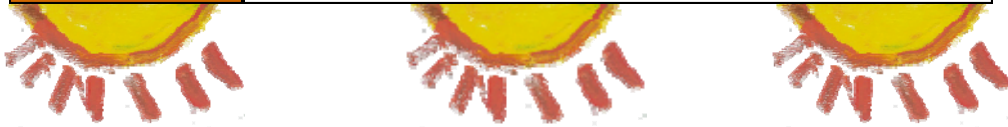
Pillars of Success from Big Sisters of BC Lower Mainland's Strategic Plan 2005-2010



Our Mission

Big Sisters is committed to enhancing the confidence, self-esteem and well-being of girls through supportive friendships with caring women.





2010 was a very special year as **Big Sisters of BC Lower Mainland** celebrated **50 years** of providing at-risk girls with positive, female mentors. Here are a few highlights from our anniversary year...

50 Stories for 50 Years

Past and present volunteers, Little Sisters, parents and staff shared stories of mentoring on our anniversary blog. We were thrilled to hear from alumni matches who are still together after 25+ years! <http://bigsistersofbc.lowermainland.blogspot.com/>.

Golden Match Makers

The launch of our "Golden Match Makers" campaign saw Ron & Janet Stern, Susan Mendelson & Jack Lutsky, Peter & Joanne Brown, and Bob & Judy Hager generously commit to each sponsoring 25 matches with a \$50,000 donation (\$10,000/year for five years).

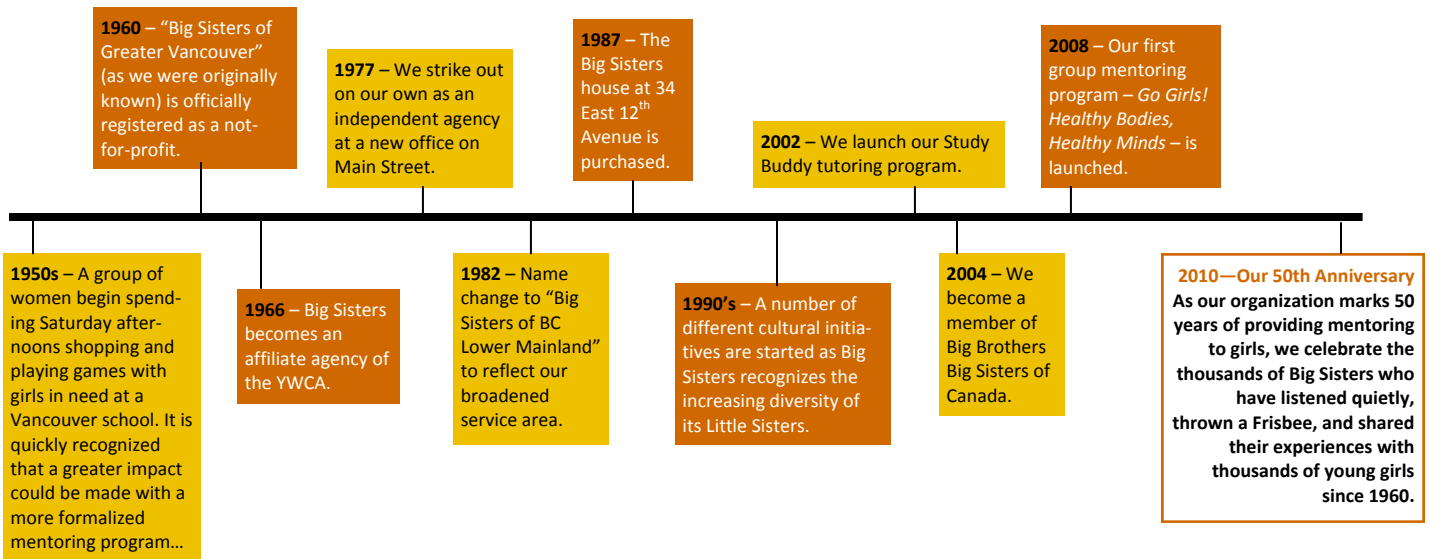
Celebrations

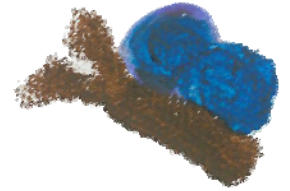
We were honoured to be joined by some of our past leaders, volunteers and Little Sisters at our Spring Lunch, Gala, and Volunteer Recognition Event. Our matches also got in on the year's celebrations by taking part in our anniversary photo contest and creating anniversary artwork for our 2010 event sponsors.

BIG Numbers

Thanks to our generous donors and supporters, \$970,000 was raised in 2010 which allowed us to serve a record 593 girls.

BIG SISTERS THROUGH THE YEARS





Program Metrics (all programs)	2010	2009	2008
Total Number of Girls Served	593	519	432
Volunteer Mentor Applications Received	218	276	269
Little Sister Referrals Received	323	284	231
New Matches Made	284	245	186
Waitlist (as of December 31 st)	189	151	136

Big & Little Sister Program

This program matches girls (ages 7-17) with Big Sister volunteers in one-to-one relationships, which provide the Little Sister with friendship and support to build her self-confidence and encourage her to make positive life decisions. Matches spend three hours a week together doing free or low-cost activities they both enjoy.

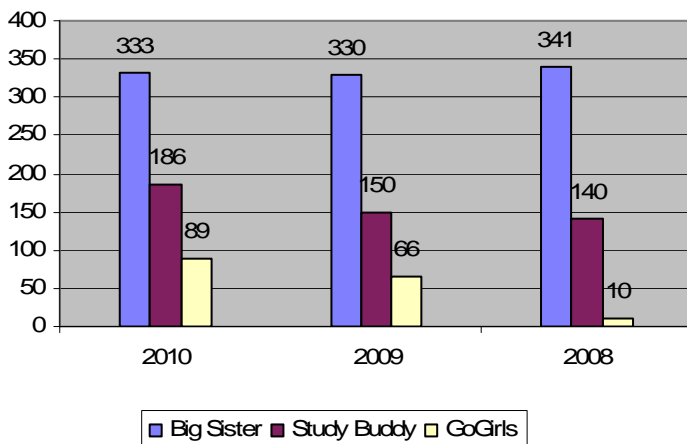
Study Buddy Program

The Study Buddy program matches girls (ages 7-17) with volunteers who offer them educational guidance. Study Buddies meet for one hour a week outside of school to work on homework and learning skills to help the Little Sister build her self-esteem as a learner and reach her academic goals.

Go Girls! Healthy Bodies, Healthy Minds Program

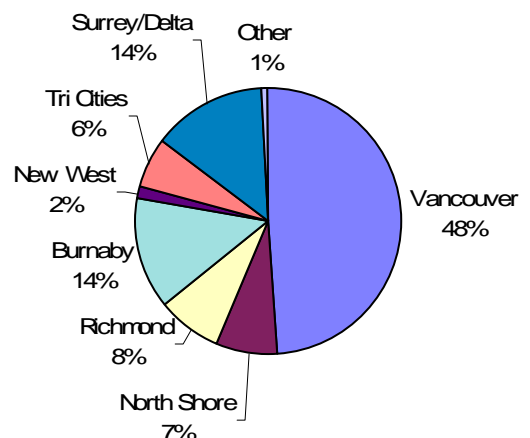
This group mentoring program encourages physical activity, healthy eating and the development of a positive self-image among girls aged 11-14. This eight week, after school program is led by female volunteer mentors (aged 19-25) in our Coquitlam partner schools.

Number of Girls Served By Program



Total Active Matches By Area

All programs as of Dec. 31, 2010





Mentoring Creates Positive Change

Children who participate in a Big Sisters/Brothers program go on to graduate from high school at a rate of 20% higher than the national average. 78% of Littles who come from a social assistance background no longer rely on this form of income, and a disproportionately high number of former Littles graduate from college or university compared to others in their age group (Project Impact, Social Planning Council of Hamilton and District, Hamilton, 1994).

A 2007 United Way/UBC study revealed that children do best when they have a variety of adults in their lives who take a positive interest in them, however a third of the children in the study could not name any adults in their community who were important to them.



By providing girls with positive, adult mentors at a time in their lives when it matters most, Big Sisters is giving these girls a champion – someone who believes in them and supports them without judgment.

The Parent Picture

- 82% of our parents/guardians say their daughter is more confident since being involved with Big Sisters (Big Sisters Annual Survey, 2010).
- 67% of our parents/guardians have seen improvements in their daughter's school performance since being involved with the Study Buddy program (Big Sisters Annual Survey, 2010).

Because of Big Sisters

"Because of my Big Sister I've grown up with the guidance of a mentor and the love of a best friend. She has helped me be the first in my family to achieve a college diploma and given me the motivation to continue on to achieve my degree." - Heidi, alumni Little Sister from 2001

"Because of my Big Sister I believe that I am of worth. My Big Sister spent quality time with me and, with that time, I felt loved and important." - Josie, alumni Little Sister from 1985



Training & Activities

- 264 girls received child safety training.
- 48 mentor training sessions were held for 175 volunteer applicants.
- 8 educational workshops were held for volunteer mentors and/or Little Sisters on topics such as internet safety, stress management and career preparation.
- 16 group activities and parties were held for matches including a cycling tour and a Japanese tea ceremony.



Big Stars

- 107 matches celebrated 3 years or more together in 2010.
- 9 Little Sisters were awarded scholarships.
- Linda Parsons was presented with an award to commemorate her 30 years of volunteerism with our organization.
- Mary Wierzejski, Glenda Morin, The Beat 94.5 FM, KVOS TV and TV Week Magazine were recognized for their outstanding contributions as volunteers and supporters of Big Sisters with Big Heart Awards.
- McNeill Nakamoto Recruitment Group received Big Brothers Big Sisters of Canada's Community Mentor Award in recognition of their outstanding support of our organization.

Fundraising Feats

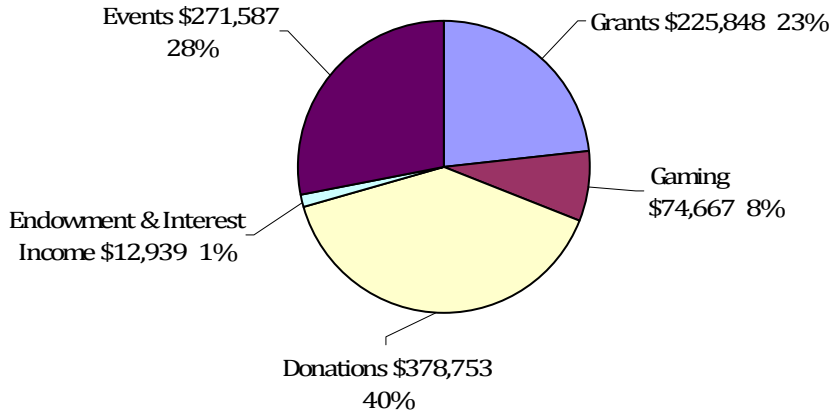
- Ron & Janet Stern, Susan Mendelson & Jack Lutsky, Peter & Joanne Brown, and Bob & Judy Hager became our first "Golden Match Makers" which their generous commitment to each sponsor 25 matches with a \$50,000 donation (\$10,000/year for 5 years).
- Big Sisters was selected as a new beneficiary of the Golf for Good charity tournament, organized by Honourary Advisory Board member Tracey McVicar. \$43,827 was raised for Big Sisters at this tournament.
- Former Temptations singer, Riley Inge, made a surprise appearance at the Grape Juice wine auction and helped founders McNeill Nakamoto Recruitment Group and CameronMcNeill.com raise \$50,943 to support our mentoring programs.
- Tiffany Sabil became the first "ultra marathoner" to run across the Sahara desert for Big Sisters, raising \$3,067 for our Go Girls! Healthy Bodies, Healthy Minds program.
- \$46,887 was raised at our Spring Lunch and \$122,531 at the Gala.



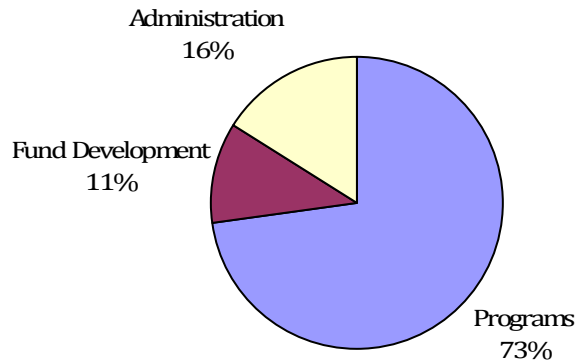


A special **thank you** to all of the individuals, companies, foundations and governments who supported Big Sisters of BC Lower Mainland in 2010.

2010 Revenues - \$967,599



2010 Expenses - \$969,739



Where we spend our fundraising dollars

- Little Sister assessments;
- Child safety training for Little Sisters and mentors;
- Activities and workshops;
- Volunteer screening and training;
- Creating, monitoring and supporting matches;
- Volunteer and family recruitment.



Golden Match Makers - Celebrating Big Sisters' 50th Anniversary (\$10,000/Year for 5 Years)

Peter & Joanne Brown * Bob & Judy Hager * Susan Mendelson & Jack Lutsky * Ron & Janet Stern

Platinum Level

Individuals & Family Foundations (\$10,000+)

Amir & Yasmin Virani Foundation * Diamond Foundation * Bob & Judy Hager and Family * The Lutsky Families * Peter & Joanne Brown Foundation * Ken & Patricia Shields

Companies, Corporate Foundations, Charitable Associations & Government (\$25,000+)

CameronMcNeill.com * City of Vancouver * McNeill Nakamoto Recruitment Group * Province of British Columbia * Raise-a-Reader Campaign * United Way of the Lower Mainland

Patron Level

Individuals (\$1,000+)

Janet Austin & Ashley Chester * Michael & Karyn Azzopardi * Lorraine Barker * David & Georgia Black * Peter & Joanne Brown * James & Wendy Charlton * David & Susan Climie * Morna Creedon * Jack & Shirley Cunningham * Lorna Darby * Jill Diamond * Michael Drever * Ron & Susan Emerson * Lisa Ethans * Bob & Wendy Fay * Marguerite Ford * Rusty & Lindy Goepel * Kelly Graham * Kay Gray * Heather Holden * Michele Holwill * David & Barbara Horton * Tara Kemes * Martina Lee * Helen Lo * Cherif Malak * Cameron & Sarah McNeill * Susan Mendelson & Jack Lutsky * David & Darrell Mindell * Ric & Donna Moore * Maxwell & Gaylene Munday * Deborah Nicols * Linda Parsons * Sarah Pattison * The Pollock Family * Hein & Mollie Poulus * The Honourable Patricia Proudfoot * Peggy Robertson * Barry & Drinda Scott * Ron & Janet Stern * Diane Switzer * Suki Takagi * Ted & Deanna Turton * Will & Margaret Voth * Ben West * Shauna Wilton * Richard Wittstock * Milton & Fei Wong

Companies (\$2,000+)

103.5 QM/FM * Alcatel-Lucent Canada * BC Business Magazine * The Beat 94.5 FM * Best Buy * Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP * Business in Vancouver * Bylo Management * Canadian Western Bank * CHC Helicopter * Club Intrawest * Coast Capital Savings Credit Union * COBS Bread * CopperLion Capital * CTV * Davis LLP * Deloitte LLP * General Mills Canada * Global BC * Glowbal Restaurant Group * Grant Thornton * Grosvenor Canada Ltd. * InstaFund * Ironwood Dental Centre * Kodak Graphic Communications Co. * KVO5 TV * The Lazy Gourmet * The Letter Shop * Meritus Financial Inc. * News1130 * Northern Feather DreamMakers * On Side Restoration Services Ltd. * Pan Pacific Vancouver * Plum * PricewaterhouseCoopers * Primex Investments Ltd. * Raymond James Ltd. * SAP Canada * Scotiabank * Sutton Place Hotel * TELUS * TV Week Magazine * Vancity * Vancouver 24 Hours * The Vancouver Courier * Wave Productions * Wedgewood Hotel & Spa * WestJet * Westland Insurance * Yellow Point Equity Partners

Foundations/Charitable Associations (\$2,000+)

The 1988 Foundation * Edith Lando Charitable Foundation * Green Shield Canada Foundation * Joseph Segal Family Foundation * Keg Spirit Foundation * London Drugs Foundation * McCarthy Tetrault Foundation * Milan & Maureen Ilich Foundation * Mount Pleasant War Memorial Cooperative Association * PricewaterhouseCoopers Foundation * RBC Foundation * Soroptimist International of Surrey/Delta * Vancouver Foundation

Government (\$2,000+)

City of Burnaby * City of North Vancouver * City of Richmond * District of North Vancouver * HMCS ORIOLE Maritime Pacific Command * Ministry of Advanced Education and Labour Market Development * North Shore Community Foundation

Patrons Circle donors as of December 31, 2010.

Independent Auditor's Report

To the Members of the Big Sisters of B.C. Lower Mainland

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the statement of financial position of the Big Sisters of B.C. Lower Mainland as at December 31, 2010 and the statements of changes in net assets, operations, and cash flows for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to error or fraud.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our qualified audit opinion.

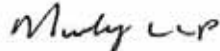
Basis for Qualified Opinion

Big Sisters of B.C. Lower Mainland derives a material amount of revenue from donations and fundraising activities. We were not able to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence about the completeness of the reported amounts for accounts receivable, donation and fundraising revenue, revenue in excess (deficiency) of expenditures and changes to net assets because there is no direct relationship between assets or services given up in exchange for amounts received or receivable. Consequently, we were unable to determine whether any adjustments to these amounts were necessary.

Opinion

In our opinion, except for the effect of adjustments, if any, which we might have determined to be necessary had we been able to satisfy ourselves concerning the completeness of the donations as described in the preceding paragraph, these financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Society as at December 31, 2010 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles. As required by the Society Act of British Columbia, we report that in our opinion, these principles have been applied on a basis consistent with that of the previous year.

Vancouver, B.C.
March 23, 2011


Chartered Accountants

BIG SISTERS OF B.C. LOWER MAINLAND

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2010

	2010	2009
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 488,737	\$ 417,326
Cash - Endowment Fund	208,427	208,427
Accounts receivable	19,804	25,118
Prepaid expenses	13,110	18,311
	730,078	669,182
Capital Assets (Notes 2 & 4)	193,978	196,133
	\$ 924,056	\$ 865,315

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements.

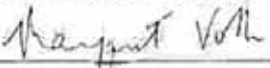
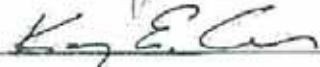
BIG SISTERS OF B.C. LOWER MAINLAND

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2010

	2010	2009
LIABILITIES		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 13,940	\$ 11,804
Wages payable	32,222	26,271
Accrued holiday pay	15,594	19,677
Unearned revenue (Note 6)	116,998	60,121
	178,754	117,873
NET ASSETS		
Internally Restricted Net Assets (Note 8 and Schedule 1)	472,236	467,331
Unrestricted Net Assets	273,066	280,111
	745,302	747,442
	\$ 924,056	\$ 865,315

APPROVED ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD:

 Director
 Director

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements.

BIG SISTERS OF B.C. LOWER MAINLAND

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2010

	2010	2009
Revenues		
Donations	\$ 378,753	\$ 395,339
Fundraising - net (Note 7)	271,587	195,119
Grants	225,848	226,028
Gaming	71,667	120,000
Scholarships	6,805	-
	954,660	936,486
Expenditures		
Amortization	16,743	11,605
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Canada	16,427	20,669
Contract fees	28,887	28,287
Fundraising	15,476	8,032
Go Girls program	28,122	34,844
Insurance	8,071	7,903
Membership education	4,381	3,132
Newsletter	4,466	4,571
Office (Schedule 3)	74,464	64,170
Other Little Sisters activities	22,423	12,798
Professional development	5,181	1,287
Public relations	9,219	8,688
Salaries	716,077	699,278
Scholarships paid	6,805	750
Special program support	8,434	7,594
Summer camp	-	10,933
Volunteer recognition	4,563	6,802
	969,739	931,343
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues over Expenditures before Other Items	(15,079)	5,143
Other Items		
Interest income	12,939	10,785
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues over Expenditures	\$ (2,140)	\$ 15,928

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements.