Safe • Free
Confidential

iwav

Islanders Working Against Violence

🛍️ Support IWAV — One Purchase at a Time

Message from the Director

Spring is a time of hope for many of us and a time of renewal in spite of current concerns such as the economy, the environment and public safety. IWAV is proud of the work we do to help those affected by violence through counselling, practical supports and by providing affordable homes for people. Our work includes helping children, youth and families navigate a world that isn't always safe and teaching how we can all be part of positive future social change.

The Cedars Second Stage Housing is a short-term program for women and their children affected by violence. The Cedars is bursting with families and small children this spring! We are glad to be able to help them with programs such as gardening and art, establishing a steady income, finding housing, and developing practical skills. We also offer a listening ear when most needed. We are looking ahead to recruiting volunteer childminders to offer a respite. It is only a short stay at the Cedars for our clients while they are stabilizing and deciding their next steps — but this is a vital program that we must continually fundraise to maintain.

Please consider a one-time or a monthly donation to keep IWAV's vital programs going. Visit us at iwav.org/donating or scan the QR code to donate today.

Sincerely,
Alicia Herbert, ED



Did you know over 10% of IWAV's funding comes from Transitions Thrift Store? Every purchase supports women, children and families impacted by violence — and Transition House clients receive store credits for essential items. Located in the heart of Ganges, Transitions is more than a thrift store — it's part of our community's response to gender-based violence.

✨ Why shopping at the store matters:

- Revenue from the store directly supports IWAV's programs
- The store employs seven people, creating sustainable, community-rooted jobs.
- Donations and purchases help reduce waste, promote reuse and build a culture of care.

Whether you're shopping for a new outfit or donating gently used items, your support helps keeps our work going.

📍 Visit us at: 119–109 McPhillips Ave
🕒 Hours: Monday to Saturday, 10 AM – 4 PM
📦 Donations accepted during business hours

Thank you for helping us turn second-hand into second chances.

IWAV Services are accessible, inclusive, and gender-affirming.
IWAV respectfully recognizes that we re located on the traditional, unceded territories of the Hul'qumi'num- and SENĆOŦEN-speaking Peoples.

IWAV Helps Salt Spring Youth Create Videos to Inform their Peers about Sexualized Violence

The Safety, Survival, and Solidarity Project is a youth-driven initiative, where over six months, IWAV empowered local youth in creating 6 short films that tackle sexualized violence. These 2- to 3-minute films offer practical tools and heartfelt messages using storytelling, animation and real-life reflection to explore the following themes:

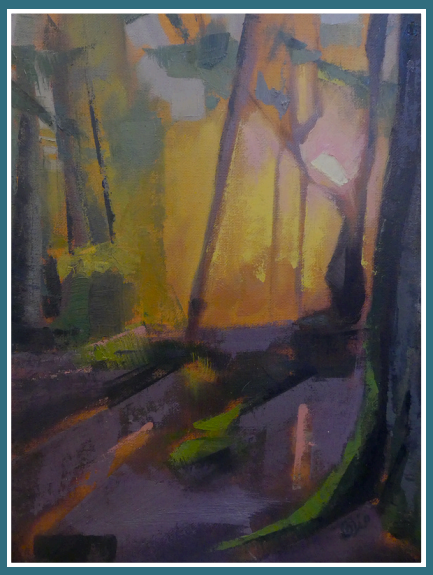
- 🛡️ Safety — Setting healthy boundaries, building awareness, and staying safe in different situations.
- 💪 Survival — Understanding trauma, navigating life after assault, and accessing support.
- 🤝 Solidarity — Standing with survivors, fostering accountability, and envisioning safer communities.

Why This Matters

Salt Spring Island and the surrounding Southern Gulf Islands experience sexual assault rates significantly higher than the provincial average. Youth are especially vulnerable — and often overlooked in conversations about prevention and support.

This project was created in response to that need. By equipping youth with the tools, knowledge, and platform to speak out, this project is breaking down the stigma around sexual violence and encouraging honest, community-wide dialogue.

> *This project opened my eyes. I didn't realize how common sexualized violence is or how much we normalize harmful behaviors. Creating these videos gave me hope that we can change things by talking about it.*
>
> — Youth participant



Real Conversations. Real Change.

These videos have been screened at events across the Southern Gulf Islands, including the Salt Spring Film Festival, where youth led panel discussions to answer questions and share their insights. These events sparked powerful community conversations and help reduce stigma around sexualized violence.

Watch and Share the Videos!

Help amplify youth voices! Please watch and share the videos. You can find the videos on our website iwav.org/sss-project or by scanning the QR code.

Connect with IWAV if you or someone you know needs support. Visit our Sexual Assault Support Services page for more information or Contact Us to learn how to get involved.

We are grateful to the Province of BC for the funding which made this project possible.

BRITISH COLUMBIA