



**2023-2024  
ANNUAL REPORT**

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# A word from the Co-Chairs

On behalf of the GAATW Board, we would like to express our deepest gratitude to our National Director Alison Clancey for leading the way in the revitalization of GAATW Canada.

*We are proud of all the work that has been accomplished this past year.*

We are also excited about new opportunities for deepening and expanding GAATW's research, advocacy, education, and networks in 2024-2025.

**ANNALEE LEPP & LEIGH ELLIOTT**  
CO-CHAIRS



# Message from the National Director

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As we reflect on the past year, it is with immense pride and gratitude that I share the significant strides GAATW Canada has made in organizational capacity building and revitalization. 2023-24 has been a transformative period for GAATW Canada, marked by strategic growth, strengthened infrastructure, and renewed commitment to our mission.

I would be remiss to first not highlight that the heart of our revitalization is the work GAATW Canada accomplished since its formation in 1996. As we look toward the future with excitement and hope, it is equally important to honour and celebrate the remarkable journey that has brought GAATW Canada to where we are today.

*Our history is a testament to the unwavering dedication of those with limited resources but boundless determination who laid the groundwork for present day GAATW Canada.*

I express the deepest gratitude for their contributions, especially Dr. Annalee Lepp, who was a founding member and is still an integral member of the organization today. Let us honour those who have paved the way by continuing their work with renewed vigor and passion. The challenges we face today are somewhat different, but our commitment to making a difference remains unwavering.

In its current iteration, GAATW Canada remains steadfast in our commitment to uphold the values that define us: rights, justice, and accountability, as we evolve to address the current anti-trafficking landscape.

As we celebrate our accomplishments this past year, we are mindful of the work that lies ahead. Our journey of organizational capacity building and revitalization is ongoing, and we are dedicated to sustaining this momentum. We are confident in our ability to navigate the future with agility and ensure that we remain a beacon of hope and a catalyst for much-needed, evidence-based change in the anti-trafficking landscape.

Together, we are building a stronger, more vibrant organization, capable of making an even greater impact in the years to come.

With heartfelt gratitude,



*Alison*

**ALISON CLANCEY**  
NATIONAL DIRECTOR

# About GAATW Canada

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**GAATW Canada was established in 1996 in Victoria, British Columbia.**



*Since 1996, GAATW Canada has addressed trafficking issues and networked with women's, 2SLGBTQAI+, sex work, and labour organizations locally and globally.*

GAATW Canada is a member organization of GAATW, an alliance of over 105 non-governmental organizations worldwide, which include women's rights, human rights, migrant rights, and anti-trafficking organizations, as well as self-organized groups of migrant workers, domestic workers, sex workers, and survivors of human trafficking.

GAATW's International Secretariat is in Bangkok, Thailand.

In 2022, GAATW Canada incorporated as a federal non-profit organization.

**MISSION**

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GAATW Canada provides a *national voice* and *labour rights approach* to *anti-trafficking policy* and *practice* through *research, advocacy,* and *public education.*

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**VALUES**

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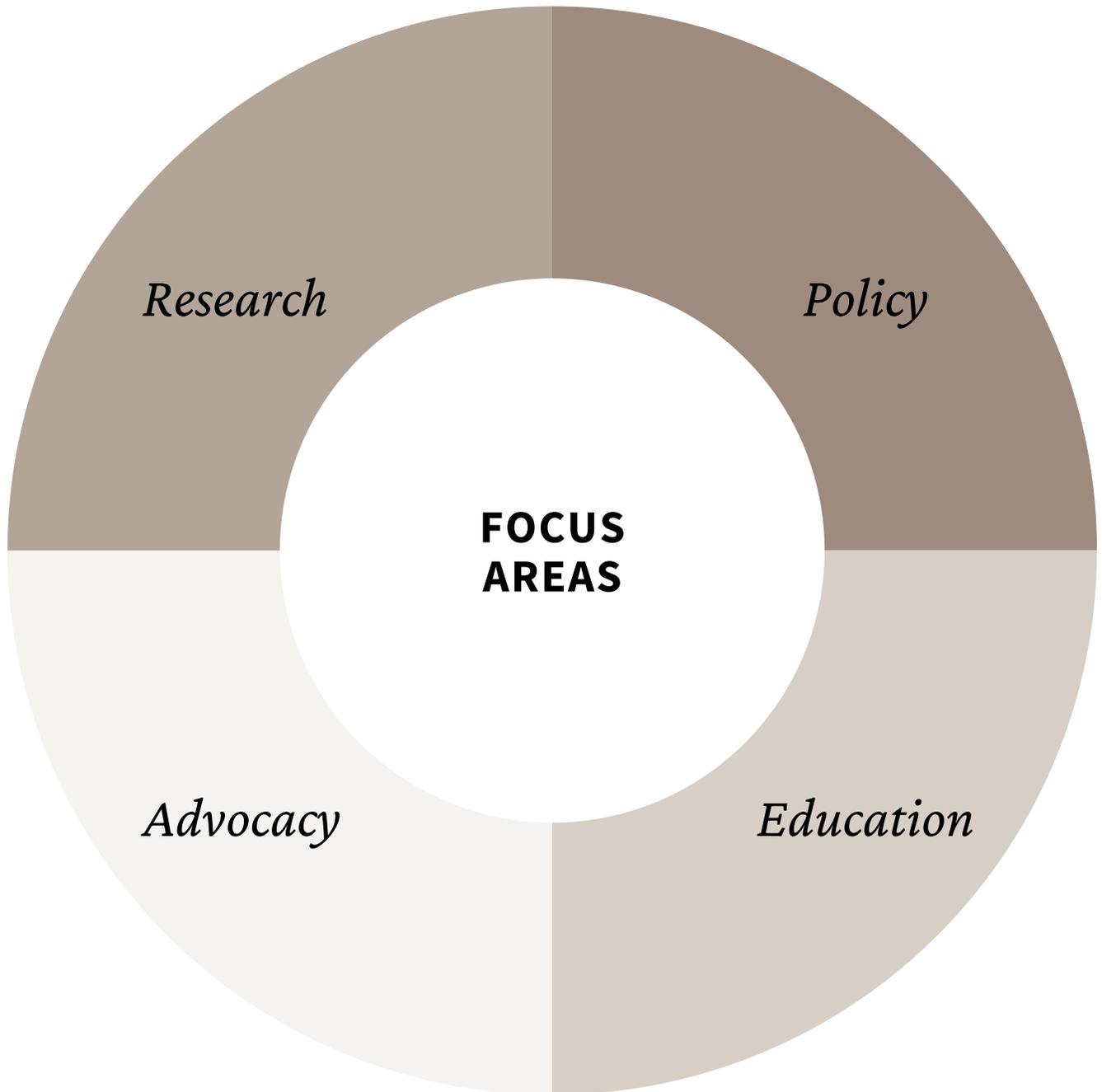
Justice

Accountability

Rights

## HOW WE DO OUR WORK

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# Our Work in 2023-24

## RESEARCH

GAATW Canada began a multi-year research project, ['Is it trafficking?' Examining gender-based violence among women who do informal, precarious, non-standard work.'](#)

A three-year study based in Western Canada, the project documents racialized women's experiences with workplace gender-based violence and the organizations that support them to inform policy, services, and prevention strategies.

The project also assesses if and/or the extent to which Canada's anti-trafficking framework addresses work-related gender-based violence perpetrated against racialized women.

GAATW Canada convened an advisory group with representatives from the Yukon, British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba to provide input and feedback on the study, which meets regularly.



## EDUCATION

**GAATW Canada published two blogs this year.**

[The first blog](#) addressed the persistent myth of an increase in human trafficking for the purpose of sexual exploitation during mega sporting events.

Drawing on GAATW Canada’s research about the Vancouver 2010 Winter Olympics, which established that an increase in human

trafficking did not occur, the blog debunked the mega sporting myth (again). In the next two years leading up to FIFA 2026 in Toronto and Vancouver, GAATW Canada will undoubtedly be active once again debunking myths in this regard.

[The second blog](#), published on National Human Trafficking Awareness Day in Canada, was a call to action to address root causes and systemic issues.

## POLICY AND ADVOCACY

GAATW Canada [submitted a brief](#) to the House of Commons Standing Committee on the Status of Women’s (FEWO) study on Human Trafficking of Women, Girls, and Gender-diverse People in Canada. GAATW Canada provided a response to the Committee’s purpose and made five recommendations.

GAATW Canada [submitted a brief](#) and met UN Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of slavery, Tomoya Obokata, to discuss labour issues and government legislation and policy that warrant the Special Rapporteur’s attention. The meeting was part of the Special Rapporteur’s official country visit to

Canada, which took place from August 23 to September 6. GAATW Canada is pleased that many of the issues we raised were reflected in the end of mission statement.

GAATW Canada met with Public Safety Canada’s Internal Audit and Evaluation Directorate to provide input into the horizontal Evaluation of the National Strategy to Combat Human Trafficking.

The objective of the evaluation is to explore issues of relevance, effectiveness, and efficiency with the intention of informing the renewal of the National Strategy.

## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Co-chair Dr. Annalee Lepp lent expertise to the ‘Assessing the harms of anti-trafficking’ panel at British Columbia’s second provincial sex work conference in Vancouver.

National Director Alison Clancey joined a panel of local activists to speak about community-based activism at the international board meeting of the Urgent Action Fund for Women’s Human Rights.



## Organizational capacity building

The organization dedicated itself to internal capacity building, prioritizing the implementation of our internal systems, processes, and human resources to lay a solid foundation for sustained growth and impact in the years to come.

This work included expanding our Board of Directors to incorporate a diverse range of expertise and perspectives, which we will continue to build on in the coming years.

Our investment in leadership development will equip GAATW Canada with the skills and knowledge necessary to navigate the complexities of the evolving anti-trafficking landscape in Canada.

GAATW Canada's Board of Directors held a strategic planning session in September, which provided guidance and direction for the year.

GAATW Canada was thrilled to introduce our new organizational brand, a dynamic representation of our core values and vision for the future.

*This fresh identity embodies our commitment to integrity and is grounded in our commitment to fostering evidence-based systemic change in the anti-trafficking landscape.*

Our logo and colour scheme symbolize our energy and forward-thinking approach, while our refined messaging emphasizes our dedication to excellence, inclusivity, and collaboration.

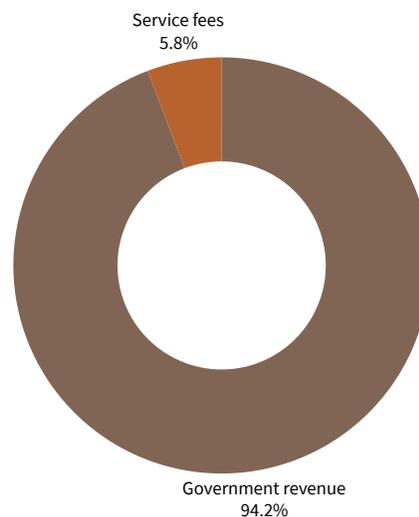
With this rebrand, we aim to not only visually differentiate ourselves but also reinforce our promise to uphold the highest standards in all our endeavors.

[Check it out!](#)

# 2023-2024 Financial Statement

## REVENUE

Government revenue	
Federal	\$101,070
Other revenue	
Service Fees	\$6,201
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$107,271</b>



## EXPENSES

Salaries and Wages	\$45,650
Consulting and Honoraria	\$48,480
Professional Fees	\$3,518
Administration	\$2,775
Professional Development	\$663
Office supplies	\$520
Amortization	\$708
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$102,314</b>



Excess of revenue over expenses	\$4,957
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We acknowledge and are thankful for the financial support provided by Women and Gender Equality Canada, whose contributions have been instrumental in advancing our mission.

# Meet the team

PEOPLE BEHIND GAATW CANADA



**ALISON CLANCEY**  
National Director



**BORISLAV GERASIMOV**  
Consultant



**DR. ANNALEE LEPP**  
Co-Chair, Treasurer



**LEIGH ELLIOTT**  
Co-Chair, Secretary



**JENNY WRIGHT**  
Member at large



**DR. KAMALA KEMPADOO**  
Member at large



**DR. JULIE HAM**  
Member at large



**DR. JULIE KAYE**  
Member at large

## CONNECT WITH US

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Website  
**gaatw.ca**



Subscribe  
**Sign up to our email newsletter**



**GAATW**Canada

*GAATW Canada acknowledges with respect that the lands on which we work are the unceded territories of First Nations, Métis, and Inuit peoples. As a rights-based organization, we recognize that colonization and associated policies and institutions have seriously impacted Indigenous peoples and have involved processes of political control, occupation by settlers, and economic/resource exploitation, which continue to contribute to gender-based violence and precarious labour in the current context.*