

# First Forward Building Connections Campaign

"When we found **FIRST UNITED**, it was an absolute blessing. Without their help, I don't know if we'd still be here."

- Angelo, FIRST UNITED Community Member

#### Grief is a constant companion in the Downtown Eastside.

Facing the compounding homelessness, overdose, and COVID-19 crises, our neighbours in the Downtown Eastside are in urgent need of space for healing, connection, and care. **FIRST UNITED** has served the DTES community for over 135 years, but to adequately respond to these complex challenges and the direct and growing needs of our community, we need your help.



#### **The Need for First Forward**

Demand for our services has outgrown our space at 320 East Hastings, and the space itself is falling into disrepair. Regardless of circumstance, all people deserve the dignity and care that a safe, purpose-built space can provide.

Revitalizing the corner of Hastings and Gore is a community-led neighbourhood rejuvenation that centres reconciliation and healing.

### A Sanctuary Within Our City

To address the critical housing, health, and social justice needs of our community, we are partnering with Lu'ma Native Housing Society to redevelop our site into a multi-storey, purpose-built space that will offer four floors of community amenities, programs and services, as well 103 units of below-market rental housing for Indigenous Peoples. Based on extensive consultation with our DTES neighbours, this project is informed by the community for the community, and we are extremely excited to build a space that provides the healing, connection, and care that our community needs.

Redeveloping our current site will mean we can move forward together. We cannot do this important work without you.

## **The Financials**

First Forward Campaign \$37 MILLION Funds to Raise: \$9,747,076 Leadership Gift: \$10,000,000 Institutions: \$8,093,725 Corporations: \$2,588,345 Individuals: \$6,020,854

#### The proposed project includes:

Two drop-in spaces, a large dining room and commercial kitchen, a legal advocacy clinic, multipurpose spaces, public showers, a day sleeping room, an interfaith sacred space, outdoor decks, computer lab, and administrative offices

 Over 100 below-market studios and onebedroom homes, with laundry and amenities









We are ready to transform. And we need your help. **Join us to move First Forward.** 

**First Forward Campaign** 

4 floors of purpose-built space for direct services

Lu'ma Native Housing Society Partnership

7 floors with 103 units of below-market housing

**Below-market Housing** 

\$54 MILLION

**FIRST UNITED** 

\$37 MILLION

### To make a gift please contact **FIRST UNITED**

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