

**FIRST  
UNITED**



*Dignity, belonging & justice for 140 years*

# 2025 Annual Report

October 1, 2024 – September 30, 2025

# Message From Leadership

**Our 140th year as an organization was both a celebration and year of reflection.** As we dug into archival images and stories of our past, we caught glimpses of the leaders and staff who came before us, who helped shape FIRST UNITED into who we are today.

While the Downtown Eastside community has evolved over time and looks different in some ways, many of the forces shaping it reach back generations. From the impacts of colonization to economic exclusion and racialized poverty, residents have long faced stigma and systemic barriers that continue in different forms today. Our archives tell these stories clearly and describe neighbours experiencing homelessness and hunger and a community responding. During the Great Depression, FIRST UNITED mobilized staff and volunteers to distribute donated food from local farmers and churches. This mirrors the work we continue to do today.

Over the decades, we've adapted and grown to meet the needs and challenges of the neighbourhood. Today, the DTES' struggles are layered with complexity, including intergenerational trauma,

racialization of poverty, an ongoing overdose crisis, and more. Alongside these challenges is extraordinary generosity and care, as neighbours continue to show up for one another. And we've remained rooted in our guiding principles of dignity, belonging and justice. It's only in recent years that we've chosen these words to describe what guides us towards achieving our vision of a neighbourhood where everyone's worth is celebrated and all people thrive. But looking back throughout the decades, we can see that these principles have been woven deeply into the fabric of FIRST UNITED for over a century.

We continued to live this out in our 140th year, ensuring that everything we do is led by dignity, belonging and justice. Affirming the worth of every individual through the provision of basic human essentials like food and shelter; creating a sense of belonging where people feel safe and seen; and continuing to challenge and break systems of oppression in our pursuit of justice. We showed up where we were needed, whether that was at Oppenheimer Park to distribute winter essentials during extreme weather, or at City Hall to oppose motions that would



continue to uphold the systems that keep people in poverty. It meant increasing our capacity to help with tax filings, showing up to hearings to support tenants facing unlawful and bad-faith evictions.

And just like in the preceding 140 years, we wouldn't have been able to do our work without the support of people from all walks of life and backgrounds who help make this happen. Thank you for believing in our mission and joining us in pursuing our vision.

At the time of writing, we've wrapped up our 140th milestone year and are onto new milestones. Reflecting on the past fiscal year gives us hope to take on the future because we've seen how this powerful collective shows up for the community in pursuit of dignity, belonging and justice.

Thank you.

**Dr. Heather F. Clarke, Board Chair**

**Amanda Burrows, Executive Director**





# We're on the Frontlines

**FIRST UNITED CHURCH COMMUNITY MINISTRY SOCIETY** envisions a neighbourhood where the worth of every person is celebrated and all people thrive. For 140 years, our responsive low-barrier programs have served low-income, underhoused and homeless individuals in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside. As a registered charity, we provide wrap-around services including meals, legal advocacy, tax filing, spiritual care, mail and phone services, overdose response, essential items like clothing and toiletries, and shelter to residents in the community. We pursue dignity, belonging, and justice to meet the daily needs of community members while engaging in systems change work to reduce homelessness, break cycles of poverty, and address the racialization of poverty.

## FIRST UNITED Board of Directors 2024-2025

- ▶ **Dr. Heather F. Clarke**, *Chair*
- ▶ **The Rev. Dr. Brian Thorpe**, *Vice Chair*
- ▶ **David Walkem**, *Secretary*
- ▶ **Lauren Payne**, *Treasurer*
- ▶ **Jeff Bay**
- ▶ **Jacob Black-Lock**
- ▶ **Nicholas Candaele**
- ▶ **Scott Griffin**
- ▶ **Elizabeth Kerklaan**
- ▶ **Paul Mitchell-Banks**
- ▶ **Julie Lees**
- ▶ **Colin Phillips**
- ▶ **Chris Wrightson**
- ▶ **Treena Duncan** (*non-voting member*)

## Leadership Team 2024-2025

- ▶ **Amanda Burrows**, *Executive Director*
- ▶ **Natalie Gobis Cutayne**, *Director of Human Resources*
- ▶ **Keely Hale**, *Director of Community Services*
- ▶ **Katie Bricknell Koncan**, *Director of Development and Communications*
- ▶ **Dr. Sarah Marsden**, *Director of Systems Change and Legal*
- ▶ **Rob Vandermey**, *Senior Director of Finance and Administration*

# Vision & Mission

Our vision is a neighbourhood where every person's worth is celebrated and all people thrive.

We seek a just society by nurturing each person's spirit through ministry, housing, advocacy, and community services.

We are guided by dignity, belonging and justice: We believe that everyone has equal value and deserves to be treated with dignity. We create and facilitate a space where all are welcome and feel a sense of belonging. We continue to fight for justice to break cycles of oppression.





# Programs and Services



**115,865**  
nourishing meals  
and snacks  
served

## Meals

In our 140th year, we continued to serve three daily meals to our shelter residents and over 1,000 meals per week to Downtown Eastside community members who regularly queue for weekday lunches. Our food truck continued to serve us well, three years after its launch. In addition to our regular lunches, we've had the honour of serving special Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas meals from our truck. In response to seeing dogs in line with community members, our Kitchen Manager started to offer kibble for any canine companions in need of food.

We regularly served snacks and refreshments in front of our Help Desk, including oatmeal every weekday morning and hot chocolate on cold afternoons. In the summer, we circulated around the community to serve iced tea and freezies.



**9,028**  
visits to the  
Help Desk

## Community Help Desk

Our Community Help Desk has remained a central hub where folks can go when in need of essential items like socks, toiletries or harm reduction supplies, access to mail, and/or referrals. Hundreds of community members who stopped by our Help Desk are part of our Mail and Phone program. This important service is lifeline for so many who use our address to receive and send important mail, and make phone calls, to stay connected in society.



**18,536**

nights of  
safe shelter  
provided

**19**

shelter  
residents  
placed in  
permanent  
housing



**\$2,972,780**

returned through  
6,284 individual  
tax returns

## Shelter

Our emergency shelter continued to provide 51 warm and dry beds for folks experiencing homelessness. We remain low-barrier and inclusive because everybody deserves the dignity of having a safe place to sleep. This fiscal year, our Case Planner helped 19 shelter residents find permanent housing and helped them transition from life in an emergency shelter to stable and secure housing! A notable case and cause for celebration was when we found permanent housing for a long-term shelter resident who had been with us for almost four years.

## Taxes

This fiscal year was the busiest on record for our Tax Clinic, which reflects the high and growing demand for this service in the community. Our Tax Coordinator, along with qualified volunteers, worked diligently to support as many people as possible who needed tax filing support. We filed over 1,700 more taxes than the previous year and returned almost \$3 million back into the pockets of low-income individuals.





**1,668**  
advocacy  
cases  
completed

## Legal Advocacy

Legal Advocacy took on over a thousand cases, supporting low-income clients in the areas of housing, income security, employment, mental health, immigration and more. Advocates attended 152 hearings and took on almost 800 housing-related cases, fighting unlawful bad-faith evictions and helping tenants keep their housing. We are also now doing articling as one of our advocates is now an articulated student.



## Spiritual Care

Spiritual Care continued to bring intentional presence to the community, providing culturally safe and trauma-informed care with the message that everyone's spirit deserves to be cared for. Throughout the year, Spiritual Care showed up in various ways: fellowship at the food truck, leading healing activities through arts and crafts at the shelter, monthly prayer and smudging, providing spiritual care to staff, and at the Help Desk. Our Spiritual Care team also attended local cultural events like the Mother's Day and Father's Day Powwows. For the first several months of the fiscal year, we had a student minister from Vancouver School of Theology join the team to provide additional support.

Spiritual Care also helped provide educational material including the Advent and Christmas calendar in December 2024. The theme focused on Indigenous Housing Justice and encouraged folks to take daily meaningful actions to create change together.



12  
Housing Rights  
Workshops

5  
legal  
submissions to  
government

## Systems Change

Our Systems Change team grew in the past fiscal year with two new staff to help expand our impact, including an Outreach Coordinator and Staff Lawyer. We continued to run Housing Rights Workshops to provide free education for those facing tenancy or eviction issues, helping them to know and uphold their rights and improve access to justice.

In September we released a new law reform platform titled *Inclusion, Fairness & Stability: Advancing Solutions for the Right to Housing in BC*, which built on our initial recommendations to the provincial government.

In addition to the law reform platform, the team also made legal submissions to the government regarding cooling rights in the *Residential Tenancy Act*, rights for tenants in supportive housing, cooling rights in city bylaws, Residential Tenancy Branch procedural fairness shortfalls, and addressing the misuse of mutual agreements to end tenancy.







# Dignity.

We believe that everyone has equal value and deserves to be treated with dignity.

## Emergency Weather Response

When winter weather hits Vancouver, we know that shelter spaces and warming centre hours are limited, leaving too many of our unhoused neighbours out in below-freezing temperatures. When we talk about dignity, we mean recognizing the worth of every individual, ensuring that people's basic needs are met and that their humanity is honoured. One way we do this is by organizing emergency weather response and mobilizing supporters to help when we see folks out in unsafe weather conditions.

In anticipation of these extreme weather events, we put out a call in December 2024 for in-kind donations of winter items like blankets, sleeping bags, gloves, scarves and more, before snowfall arrived. Thanks to the generosity of donors and partners who answered the call, we had an inventory of donated winter goods ready for distribution. In early February, when we heard that the forecast was calling for a blast of snow, we were prepared and equipped to hold a pop-up distribution of cold weather essentials at Oppenheimer Park.



During this time, Amanda Burrows, Executive Director, spoke to the media about the lack of warming centre facilities to meet the needs of people living on the streets. Just months before, the 2024 homeless count was released and showed a 32 percent increase in homelessness in Metro Vancouver and we saw that the demand for crucial services was not being met.

We put out an invitation for community members to come to Oppenheimer to pick up items that would keep them warm. That day, staff and volunteers handed out over 800 items: 350 toques, 51 emergency kits with waterproof sleeping bags from the Zacpac Project, 88 pairs of Vessi waterproof shoes, 100

scarves, over 100 pairs of socks, 60 SAJE tote bags (with hats, socks, chapstick), and countless pairs of gloves.

We also distributed items at our Help Desk, Food Truck and Shelter, as well as to other organizations in the community, including the Overdose Prevention Society and Aboriginal Front Door.

We're grateful to have the resources and network to plan, coordinate and execute an emergency cold weather response like this. It takes a village of donors, partners, staff and volunteers to make sure we get these life-saving items into the hands of our unhoused neighbours in a timely manner. Thank you to all who showed up to bring dignity to the community.



# Belonging.

We create and facilitate a space where all are welcome and can feel a sense of belonging.

## A Place to Belong

In the Downtown Eastside, the people we serve are often stigmatized, judged and excluded from society. To combat this, we strive to cultivate safer environments where folks are accepted and feel welcome. In our work, this includes fostering social connections and helping people feel part of a community.

With belonging in mind, we incorporated these ideas into the planning of our building. We wanted people to feel that the space was created specifically with them in mind. In the fall of 2024, we launched the Buy-a-Brick campaign to raise funds for the inclusion of Indigenous art for our building.

“Art is one of the main ways we as people and as communities share our culture and our stories,” Amanda Burrows, Executive Director, shared about why we chose to incorporate Indigenous art into our building design. “It creates a sense of purpose, dignity and belonging. Representation in art matters. Who is included, who is excluded, and who is even creating these stories matters. In the Downtown Eastside, where histories of colonialism and oppression are directly tied to the erasure of culture, particularly Indigenous culture, we believe that

access to and inclusion in public art is inextricably linked to reconciliation and healing in this community.”

We worked closely with Indigenous consultants, HOST Consulting, to respectfully integrate traditional art for the exterior of our building by artists from each of the Host Nations of the land: Xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw (Squamish Nation) and Səlílwətaʔ (Tsleil-Waututh). We also announced that art installations for the interior of the building would be created by Urban Indigenous and Downtown Eastside artists.

In other areas of our work, belonging means advocating for people to feel a sense of belonging in society. For the Advent season, Rev. Lauren Sanders, Spiritual Care Manager, created an Indigenous Housing Justice calendar, inviting people to learn with us how racism, colonization, and housing systems in Vancouver, the unceded and ancestral lands of the Xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw (Squamish Nation), Səlílwətaʔ (Tsleil-Waututh) contribute to injustice and oppression, and what actions we could take to pursue justice. The calendar ran from Dec. 1 to Jan. 5 and featured daily actions as part of our work and commitment to putting reconciliation into action.



Xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam) artists ʰəliχwəlwət—Debra Sparrow and kʷəlasəltən Mack Paul place a blanket around Bruce Wright during the FIRST UNITED Art Campaign launch event in November 2024. Wright hosted the event at his home, where FIRST announced it would partner with Indigenous artists from Host Nations as part of the redevelopment project. Photo by Maxine Bulloch.

# Justice.

We continue to fight for justice  
to break cycles of oppression.

## In Pursuit of Justice

It was an eventful year at Vancouver City Hall, with policy changes and motions that threatened the welfare of the Downtown Eastside community. Recognizing that these changes would result in further displacement, eviction and homelessness, we continued our advocacy and systems change work to stand up for tenants' rights.

When City Council put forward a motion in February 2025 to freeze new supportive housing projects in the city, we mobilized our community by organizing a letter-writing campaign that generated over 2,200 letters asking City Councillors to vote against it. We didn't stop there. We encouraged folks to speak at City Council in opposition to the motion. To help dispel misconceptions and illustrate the need for supportive housing projects, we partnered with Vancity Community Foundation to write an op-ed in the Vancouver Sun titled "Supportive housing makes communities safer". Despite over 80 individuals speaking to Council largely in opposition, including Amanda Burrows and Board Chair Dr. Heather F. Clarke, City Council unfortunately voted to pass the motion and ban net-new supportive housing throughout Vancouver.

By May, City Council proposed a shift to the DTES Local Area Plan which would alter social housing requirements in the neighbourhood and fast-track gentrification. Knowing those changes would increase displacement and homelessness, we published the op-ed “Resist the gentrification of the Downtown Eastside” to outline how detrimental the change would be to the neighbourhood and residents.

While we were disappointed by Council’s decisions, we continued our work to advocate for tenants’ rights, not just in Vancouver but across the province.

In September, we released a second law reform platform titled *Inclusion, Fairness, & Stability: Advancing Solutions for the Right to Housing in B.C.*

Using updated findings from our BC Evictions Mapping Project and research from jurisdictions across Canada and globally, we included three categories for legislative and policy solutions:

### **1. Protecting diversity and inclusion in housing:**

- a. Prohibiting pet bans in rentals
- b. Confirming tenants’ right to install cooling equipment (air conditioners) and prohibiting clauses that restrict the use of cooling devices

### **2. Improving procedural fairness at the Residential Tenancy Branch:**

- a. Requiring landlords to apply to evict a tenant
- b. Requiring landlords to provide evidence first when evicting a tenant, and providing tenants reasonable time to respond to evidence
- c. Ensuring that adjournments will be provided to allow tenants appropriate time to review and respond to landlords’ evidence

### **3. Rent stabilization:**

Replacing unlimited rent increases between tenancies with selective vacancy control between tenancies in times of low vacancy

We shared this platform with government leaders at the Union of BC Municipalities Convention to draw attention to these recommendations. That same week, the Vancouver Sun included mention of our platform in an article highlighting the need for cooling rights reform in our time of climate change.

Our work is nowhere near done and we will continue to pursue justice, advocating for equity to strengthen tenants’ rights and prevent displacement and homelessness.



**First United Church  
Redevelopment  
Rooftop Celebration  
January 2025**

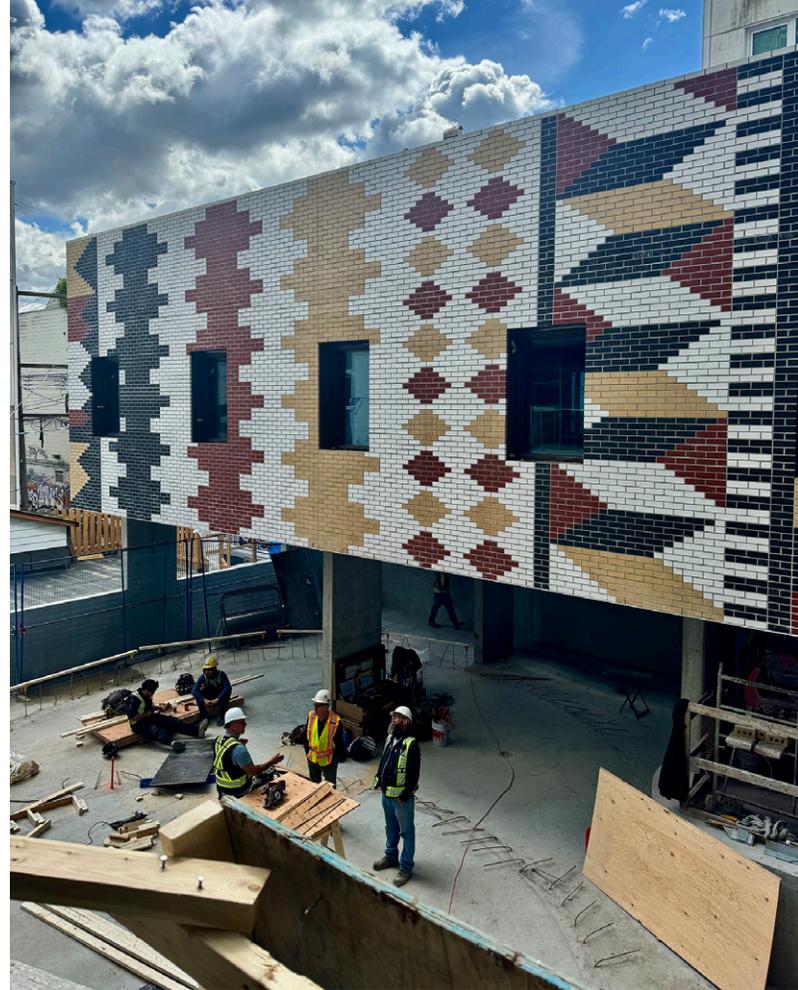


# It's a Lot More Than a Building We're Building

The Downtown Eastside is deserving of beautiful spaces and should have the same access to art that richer neighbourhoods have. More importantly, art and culture are integral to a person's sense of dignity and belonging, as well as to healing and reconciliation. That's why we incorporated Indigenous art into the design and architectural elements of our new building.

In November 2024, we launched our art campaign, announcing that \$3 million of our overall budget would be allocated toward the inclusion of Indigenous art into our building's exterior façade and interior spaces, leveraging costs that would have existed with or without the inclusion of art.

We announced partnerships with Indigenous artists from Host Nations, *xʷməθkʷəy̍əm* (Musqueam), *Skwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw* (Squamish Nation) and *səlilwətał* (Tsleil-Waututh), including Musqueam Master Weaver Debra Sparrow—*θəliχwəlwət* who designed a brickwork pattern that served as the inspiration for our Buy-a-Brick campaign. Donors were invited to purchase a symbolic brick in support of our redevelopment and to increase access to Indigenous public art in the DTES.



Thanks to a \$1 million gift from the Audain Foundation, we started our art campaign with over \$1.5 million. Following the launch of Buy-a-Brick, we sold 785 bricks during the year, resulting in \$115,668 in brick donations.

By December, construction at 320 East Hastings had “topped out,” meaning all 11 of our building’s floors had been built and the final beam had been placed. To celebrate the milestone, we hosted a rooftop ceremony in January with our housing partner Lu'ma Native Housing Society and ITC Construction Group. We were joined by key project partners and FIRST UNITED senior staff, volunteers, and donors who have played pivotal roles in the redevelopment. As the celebration came to an end, a bald eagle flew over the rooftop and circled the building before perching atop the crane. This stunning moment was interpreted as a blessing from the Creator.

The need for projects like ours was highlighted when Vancouver City Council passed a motion to freeze net-new supportive housing projects in February. In response to this disappointing decision, the North Family Foundation pledged a transformative \$1 million donation to our project.

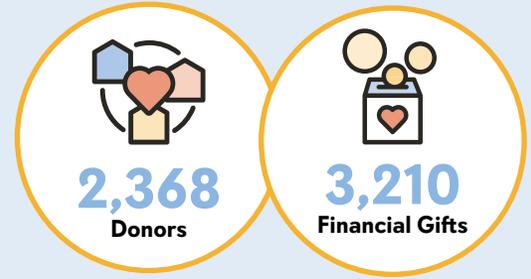
The North Family Foundation shared:

*“We need more essential services and supportive housing in Vancouver, not less. In light of recent news to pause life-saving supportive housing, our family is donating \$1 million towards FIRST UNITED’s redevelopment project. Their project is creating space for desperately needed programs and services that help residents of the Downtown Eastside and is enabling affordable and supportive housing that is badly needed. There has never been a more urgent time for all sectors and communities to come together to respond to the complex crises in our city.”*

We closed our fiscal year with over \$33 million raised for our building project. This brought us closer to our goal as we watched construction progress and the future of FIRST UNITED take shape before our eyes.

# Thank You

Our community is made up of generous individuals, businesses, communities of faith, foundations, partners and volunteers who join in our pursuit of dignity, belonging and justice. We would not be able to achieve what we have without this support. Thank you for making a significant impact in the lives of thousands of Downtown Eastside community members.



## Frontline Monthly Donors

Frontline Monthly Donors are generous individuals who have committed to giving recurring gifts in support of our work. From \$5 to \$500 a month, every monthly gift is valuable and helps our day-to-day operations, providing stability and reliability to help us plan for the future.



# Community Donors

Community Donors are people whose values are aligned with ours and who choose to support our programs and services in pursuit of dignity, belonging and justice. About 50% of our revenue is made up of donor and funder gifts, supporting our frontline services and systems change work.



Below is a list of Community Donors who have given \$5,000+ this fiscal year and are part of our Leadership Circle.

- ▶ 11 Anonymous Donors
- ▶ Robyn Brasell
- ▶ The Robert J and Susan K Burns Fund at the United Church of Canada Foundation
- ▶ Mary and Gordon Christopher Foundation
- ▶ Arlene Clark
- ▶ Dr. Heather Clarke
- ▶ Michael Cormack & Jennifer Drake
- ▶ The Crosby Family Fund, *held at Nicola Wealth Private Giving Foundation*
- ▶ The Ellis Foundation Incorporated
- ▶ The Fairway Fund, *held at Vancouver Foundation*
- ▶ Jim and Casey Fletcher
- ▶ Peter Goheen
- ▶ Philip Holton & Isobel James
- ▶ David Jiles & Carol Denny
- ▶ Heather & Trevor Johnstone
- ▶ Suzanne Jordan
- ▶ Elizabeth & Rudy Kerklaan
- ▶ The Lightburn Family Fund, *held at Vancouver Foundation*
- ▶ The Lindsay Family Fund, *held at Vancouver Foundation*
- ▶ The Lindsay Family Foundation
- ▶ The McGrane-Pearson Endowment Fund, *held at Vancouver Foundation*
- ▶ Sandi McIntosh-Kocaba & Jan Kocaba
- ▶ The North Family Foundation
- ▶ James Pond
- ▶ The Pratt-Johnson Family Fund, *held at Nicola Wealth Private Giving Foundation*
- ▶ Donald & Jane Shumka
- ▶ The Pentony-Woolwich & Siemens Family Fund, *held at Nicola Wealth Private Giving Foundation*
- ▶ Joanne & Peter Skeates
- ▶ Dianne and John Slimmon
- ▶ Soh Lim Poh Paul Foundation
- ▶ The Stonkus Foundation
- ▶ Ian Tate & Alison Minto

# Communities of Faith

Communities of Faith are congregations who put their faith into action, answering the call to love their neighbours in the Downtown Eastside. Communities of Faith are powerful collective groups that are essential to the work we do. Thank you for your generosity and commitment to showing up for the most vulnerable in our society.



Listed below are Communities of Faith who have given \$1,000+ in support of our programs and services.

- ▶ Aldergrove United Church
- ▶ Canadian Memorial United Church
- ▶ Cawston United Church
- ▶ Crossroads United Church
- ▶ Gilmore Park United Church
- ▶ Highlands United Church
- ▶ Jubilee United Church
- ▶ Mount Seymour United Church
- ▶ Osoyoos United Church Women - Dorcas Unit
- ▶ Richmond United Church
- ▶ Sicamous United Church
- ▶ St. Andrew's United Church and Centre for Peace
- ▶ St. Andrew's United Church North Vancouver
- ▶ St. John's United Church
- ▶ Trinity-Grace United Church
- ▶ Tsawwassen United Church
- ▶ Trinity United Church Women Port Coquitlam
- ▶ United Churches of Langley
- ▶ West Point Grey United Church
- ▶ West Vancouver United Church Women



# Community Partners

Community Partners are businesses that believe in our mission and have chosen to support our programs and services. We're honoured to recognize our Community Partners who use their resources to make a direct impact in the DTES.



J.C. Thomas Law Corporation

Leadership support for First Forward





# Community Funders

Community Funders are our partners at foundations and within government that help make our work possible. Thank you for supporting our work to bring dignity, belonging and justice to the DTES.



2 Anonymous Donors | Canada Revenue Agency | Charles Johnson Charitable Fund  
Reaching Home | Sant Jalam Charitable Foundation of North America | Unifor Social Justice Fund  
United Church of Canada | University of British Columbia

# Friends of First

Friends of First are individuals who have invested in the future of the Downtown Eastside by putting **FIRST UNITED** in their will. Their legacy gift makes it possible for future generations in the DTES to experience dignity, belonging and justice.

- ▶ 17 Anonymous Friends
- ▶ Bill Booth & Tom Hutchinson
- ▶ Florence Brownridge
- ▶ Bob & Joan Burrows
- ▶ Dr. Heather F. Clarke
- ▶ Eileen Cole
- ▶ Judith Donaldson
- ▶ Jan & Joan Drabek

- ▶ Don Evans
- ▶ Doreen Gardner Brown
- ▶ David Jiles & Carol Denny
- ▶ Sharon Johnson
- ▶ Diana Matrick
- ▶ Lawrence & Jean Matrick
- ▶ Bob Miller & Barbara Rendell
- ▶ Colleen Dunn

- ▶ Colin Phillips
- ▶ Janet Reid
- ▶ Amanda Shintani & Garth Taylor
- ▶ Robert & Ellen Smith
- ▶ Gordon & Daphne Squire
- ▶ Gordon Tolman
- ▶ Floyd Wartnow

## Realized Bequests

Below is a list of beloved Friends of First who have left us. While they are no longer here with us, their spirit of compassion and care for the DTES lives on through their legacy gift.

- ▶ 5 Anonymous Friends
- ▶ Jean Gabrielse
- ▶ Chris Grauer
- ▶ Jill Guerin
- ▶ Ian Housego
- ▶ Marjorie Needles
- ▶ Lorraine Redmond
- ▶ Brian Smith





# Thank You for Moving First Forward

This year, we received 778 gifts in support of our redevelopment project! Since the launch of our capital campaign, we've had a total of 1,665 individuals, businesses, foundations and communities of faith contribute to our redevelopment project.

Thank you to our First Forward donors. Your collective support helped us raise over \$33 million by September 30, 2025. Your generosity and commitment to bringing dignity, belonging and justice to the Downtown Eastside will have a lasting impact in the neighbourhood.

## Leadership Gifts

- ▶ 625 Powell Street Foundation
- ▶ The Audain Foundation
- ▶ Elizabeth & Rudy Kerklaan
- ▶ The North Family Foundation
- ▶ Pacific Mountain Regional Council
- ▶ Reaching Home
- ▶ Royal Gold Corporation
- ▶ St. Andrew's-Wesley United Church
- ▶ Wheaton Precious Metals Corporation

## Transformative Gifts

4 Anonymous Donors  
Aldergrove United Church  
Bob & Barb Atkinson  
B2Gold  
Dr. Heather F. Clarke  
The Comart Foundation  
Connor, Clark & Lunn Foundation  
The Denny-Jiles Family  
Gilmore Park United Church  
The Hieros Foundation  
Jubilee United Church  
The Krogseth Foundation  
The Lightburn Family Fund,  
*held at Vancouver Foundation*  
Marion Man & Scott Shaw, The Chin Wei Foundation  
The McGrane-Pearson Endowment Fund,  
*held at Vancouver Foundation*  
Pacific Spirit United Church  
The Pejman Family  
Carol Smallwood  
Randy Smallwood  
The United Church of Canada  
The Y.P. Heung Foundation

## Inspirational Gifts

1 Anonymous Donor  
Connor, Clark & Lunn Infrastructure  
The Ewasiuk-Dobbie Family Foundation  
The Charles & Lucile Flavelle Family Fund,  
*held at Vancouver Foundation*  
Joyce Hodge  
The Kaatza Foundation  
Chuck Lew, K.C.  
Gordon & Barbara MacDougall  
Bernard & Julie Poznanski  
Russel & Barb Quinn  
Christopher & Nancy Waltham

***“We donated because FIRST UNITED provides dignity to people who are our neighbours.”***

**– Rudy and Elizabeth Kerklaan,  
Buy-a-Brick Matching Partners**

## Champion Gifts

4 Anonymous Donors

Adrienne Clark

Alan Donaldson

Alice & Larry Laberge

Arlene Gladstone

Barbara & Charles Filewych

Barry & Linda Stadey

Betty Goodwin

Beverly & James Stewart

Catherine & Paul Evans

Cliff McCracken

Dean Winram

Donald & T. Darlene Haskins

Dorothy Mills

Douglas Smart & Merrilee Thompson

Elaine Gunn

FEMO Construction Ltd: Concrete Formwork

Gordon Carter

Hannah Briemberg

Jacob Black-Lock

Jennifer Kong

Kathleen Bentall

Kathleen McTaggart & Morgan Campbell

Kathryn Neilson

Katie & Greg Bricknell Koncan

Linda Ervin

Lis & Bruce Welch

Marilyn Pitt

Mark & Barb Cullen

Martha Burton

Mary Ellis

Marty Hlavacek

Nancy Trott

Nora Batchelor

Rev. Daniel & Loretta Bogert O'Brien

Ruth Smith

Samien Safaei Law Corporation

Susan Irwin

The Amir Malekyazdi Foundation

The Fernando-Mehta Family

The Lillian & Ross Davidson Fund,

*held at Vancouver Foundation*

The Lindsay Family Fund,

*held at Vancouver Foundation*

The LRJ Charitable Foundation

Trista Baldwin

Veronika Hebbard

Wendy Rattray

William Veenstra

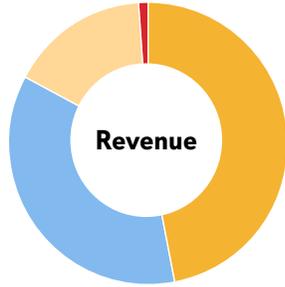


This list includes Leadership, Transformative, Inspirational and Champion donors who have given or started a pledge in the 2024-25 fiscal year. Gifts made after September 30, 2025 will be recognized in next year's report. Prior gifts and pledges are recognized on our website. We do our best to honour recognition preferences, but mistakes happen! If we've made an error, email us to let us know at [donations@firstunited.ca](mailto:donations@firstunited.ca).





# Financial Statements



● Government	\$	2,676,140	47 %
● Donations & sponsorships	\$	2,029,123	36 %
● Grants	\$	887,235	16 %
● Other	\$	53,716	1 %
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>5,646,214</b>	<b>100 %</b>



● Charitable activities	\$	4,406,587	80 %
● Fundraising & communications	\$	668,462	11 %
● Admin & facilities	\$	445,250	9 %
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>5,520,299</b>	<b>100 %</b>





*Dignity, belonging & justice for 140 years*



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Charitable Registration No. 82672 6135 RR0001

