



2021/2022
Annual Report



United Way
British Columbia

Working with communities in BC's
Interior, Lower Mainland, Central
& Northern Vancouver Island

We recognize the communities in which we work



We recognize that we operate as guests on the traditional and ancestral homelands of First Peoples and their descendants. We acknowledge that First Peoples' relationships with these lands and waterways span millennia, and most of these territories are unceded.

What we refer to as the Lower Mainland and the Fraser Valley include homelands of the həná̓míłəm (Halkomelem) and Skwxwú7mesh snichim (Squamish Language) speaking peoples and their descendants, including the First Nations of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), sə́lílwətaʔ (Tsleil-Waututh), Qayqayt (New Westminister), and Tsawwassen.

Specifically, we recognize the Stó:lō and communities within the S'ólh Temexw, including the Nations of Semá:th (Sumas) in Abbotsford, Matsqui (Abbotsford), Skwah (Chilliwack), Skowkale (Chilliwack), Shxwhá:y (Chilliwack River Valley), Squiala (Upper Fraser), Popkum (Upper Fraser), Tzeachten (Fraser Valley), Leq'a:mel (Mission), Yakweakwioose (Sardis), Aitchletz (Sardis), and Skawahlook (Agassiz).

We value healthy and respectful relations with the governments of Snuneymuxw First Nation and Snaw-naw-as (Nanoose First Nation)—the traditional territories upon which the City of Nanaimo was established.

In the central and northern regions of Vancouver Island, we acknowledge we work and live within the traditional territories of the Kwakwaka'wakw (central to northern Vancouver Island), both the unceded and Treaty Settlement Lands of the Nuuchahn-ulth (west coast of Vancouver Island), and Coast Salish People, including the Stz'uminus (Chemainus First Nation) and members of the Hul'qumi'num Treaty Group. As well, we acknowledge our relationships with the Kúkpí7 and council of Tkemlúps te Secwépemc, within the ancestral lands of the Secwepemcúfcw, where the City of Kamloops was established. Within what we refer to as the Nicola, Interior, and Cariboo regions, we acknowledge we do our work on the unceded lands of the Lil'wat (Interior Salish), Secwépemc (Shuswap), and Nlaka'pamux (Thompson). In what we call the Lower Columbia or West Kootenay region, we acknowledge we conduct our work on the unceded lands of the Ktunaxa Nation (East Kootenay), the Sinixt (West Kootenay), and Syilx Okanagan Nation.

Our recently completed work through the Community Builder Program was within the traditional territories of the Esquimalt and Songhees Nations, and the lək'wəŋən (Lekwungen) speaking Peoples.

Message from the President & CEO

If 2020 introduced us to the many challenging twists and turns of a global pandemic, then 2021 expanded our ability to respond to the unexpected as a unified organization for the good of our local communities.

With the support of our many champions, six United Ways across the province successfully came together on July 1st, 2021 to form one, stronger entity; United Way British Columbia – working with communities in BC's Interior, Lower Mainland and Central & Northern Vancouver Island (UWBC).

At the very moment we celebrated this historic amalgamation, we also found ourselves launching a fund to support those in need as the worst wildfire season on record began to ravage our province. Our increased ability to respond in real-time to the presenting needs of vulnerable people, and our gratitude for the opportunity to do so, were great confirmations that united we are certainly stronger.

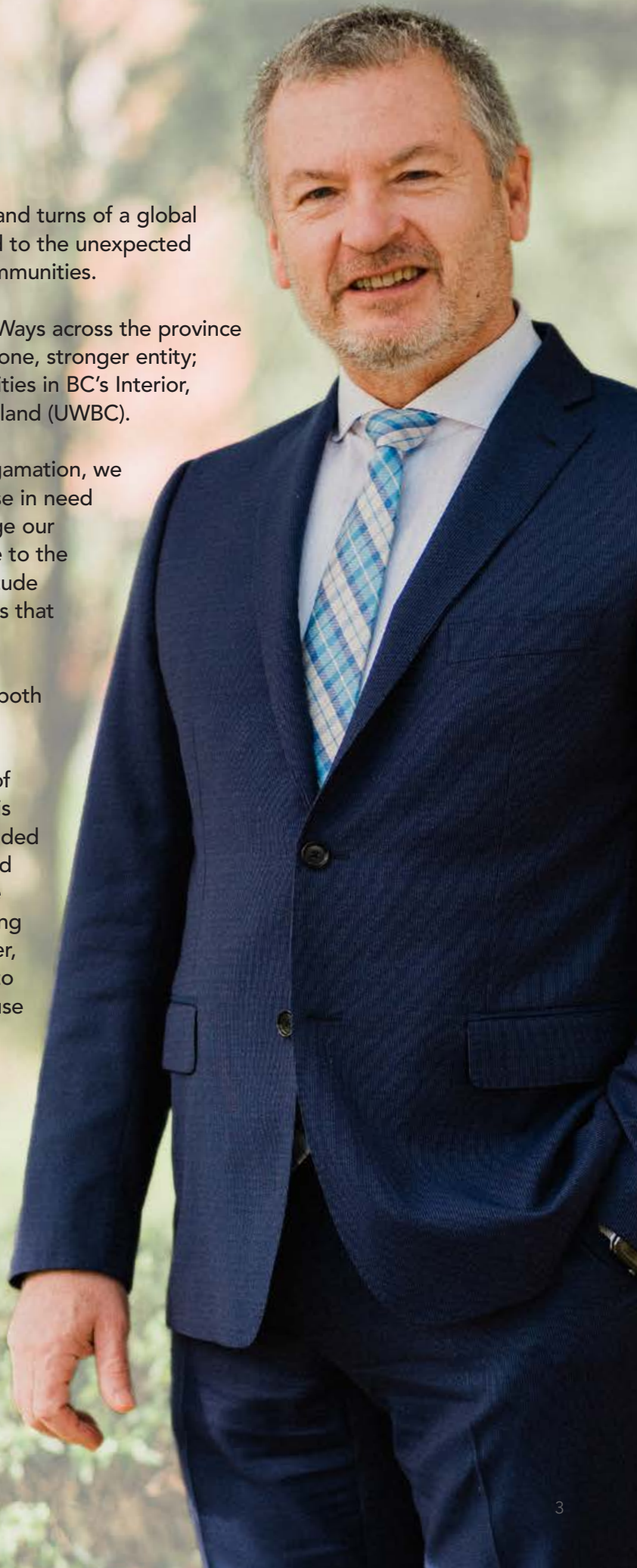
The generosity, volunteerism, and eager response of both British Columbians and the community partners who supported our efforts during both the pandemic and wildfire events inspired UWBC to expand this scope of work to an ongoing Emergent Response initiative. This paved the path forward as we convened with like-minded collaborators and wrapped community support around those impacted by the unprecedented flooding in the Fall as well. These efforts, as well as our regular funding and the expansion of programs like UWBC's iVolunteer, Hi Neighbour, United Way Schools Out, and more, into our regions across BC, have only been possible because of our newly expanded reach and collective alliance.

As we reflect on all that was accomplished through local love in our communities during 2021, we are left feeling thankful for the privilege of helping others, humbled by your trust, and encouraged to press on as we continue to align our efforts and increase our impact for the good of all.

Thank you for making this work, and all that is to come, possible.



Michael McKnight
President & CEO
United Way British Columbia





United, we are stronger

United Way British Columbia is an amalgamation of six United Ways from across BC. Working with communities in BC's Interior, Lower Mainland, Central and Northern Vancouver Island, we serve a population of over 4 million people through the creation and support of healthy, caring, inclusive communities.

We strengthen vital connections that support people in need in our local communities.

United, we have more impact



2.5 million meals were provided to families and individuals in need by our **16 Regional Community Food Hubs** and **7 Food Recovery Organizations**.



About **4,000 school-aged kids** attended **33** United Way School's Out Programs. Almost **207,000 snacks** were delivered.



Over **560,000 services** were provided by **217 United Way Healthy Aging Programs** to help keep over **40,500 seniors** independent, active, and engaged throughout BC.



More than **18,000 people** received emergency support when devastating fires and floods swept the province.



Over **6,000 individuals** are registered to **help** and **connect** with **neighbours** in need through United Way British Columbia's **iVolunteer** program.



164 Local Love Projects connected over **13,000 residents** in **12 Hi Neighbour** communities across the Lower Mainland and Fraser Valley.

United in emergent response

Bringing together the power of many for the good of all

When wildfires devastated our communities, United Way donors and partners rallied together to support the **United for BC Wildfire Recovery Fund**. Over 5,160 individuals in 86 communities were able to access food, basic needs, childcare, and after-school programs, as well as vital mental health and counselling services.

When historic flooding events followed a few months later, we launched the **United for BC Flood Response Fund** and worked together with more than 100 community partners to provide critical support to over 13,000 individuals in need.

Our ability to respond in times of crisis reinforces that together, we truly are stronger and better able to support our communities and those in need.



Delivering appliances to people affected by wildfires and floods

When wildfires and floods struck our communities, some of our neighbours lost everything. Some impacted families were forced to store food outdoors because they simply had no other option – an unsafe and unsustainable solution in warmer months.

Thanks to Trail Appliances and with transportation support from Two Small Men with Big Hearts, we were able to bring 135 freezers and 140 fridges to people affected by floods and fires in the communities of Merritt, Cook Island Fery Indian Band, Penticton, and Chilliwack.

For those who had nothing left after the devastating loss of their homes, these in-kind gifts were nothing short of invaluable.



United for food security

Connecting communities to food and more

With rising costs of food, gas, and accommodations in conjunction with supply chain issues, many families, individuals, and seniors turned to local community organizations to access food and services.

To meet this growing demand and help address the unique needs of underserved and rural communities, we added nine new **Regional Community Food Hubs** last year that span from Williams Lake in the Thompson Nicola Cariboo to Strathcona on Vancouver Island, to Kimberley/Cranbrook in the southeast.

United Way British Columbia's 16 Regional Community Food Hubs work with local non-profit partners, residents, businesses, all levels of government, the agricultural sector, and others to ensure food and additional supports like basic care, housing, and employment services are available when and where they are needed most across the province.



Building a healthier, more equitable, and sustainable food system

Creating food security in local communities is an evolving process.

Through conversations with local populations, the Archway Food Justice Team at our Regional Community Food Hub in Abbotsford was able to help ensure that its constituents received more nutritious, culturally appropriate foods thanks to the power of bulk buying and the creation of produce bags that reflect Punjabi, Arab, and South Asian foods and practices.

The South Asian Friend produce bag, for example, includes culture-specific foods such as okra, onions, rapini leaves, tomatoes, peppers, potatoes, eggplant, and cauliflower. It's a wonderful way to foster dignity and build a deepened sense of community.



United for children and youth

United Way School's Out

In 2021, United Way School's Out programming focused on helping children ages 6-12 stay happy and healthy during a time of uncertainty caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. Compounded with its disproportional impact on marginalized communities, many services and programs closed or shifted availability because of the pandemic. United Way School's Out programs provided consistency and essential support for mental health and well-being along with healthy, nutritious food for children in need.

In 2021, almost 5,400 United Way School's Out sessions were offered at over 100 school sites in the Lower Mainland and Fraser Valley. Most of these programs occurred in-person, increasing critical social engagement. In addition, almost 207,000 snacks were served.



United Way Future Leaders

Over 550 youth, many from diverse, newcomer, and Indigenous communities, stepped up to support their younger peers at United Way School's Out programs last year despite having to adapt to ongoing pandemic restrictions and mental health impacts. These dedicated young people are part of the United Way Future Leaders program, which empowers youth ages 15-30 by providing practical work experience and the skills necessary for future employment through paid or volunteer internships, often with United Way School's Out programs.

In total, over 145 jobs were created for youth and over 4,000 volunteer hours were provided by youth helping to support the meaningful delivery of United Way School's Out programs across six school districts in the Lower Mainland and Fraser Valley.

United Way School's Out programs are currently being expanded across the province to help meet the childcare needs of families in all United Way British Columbia regions.



Youth Futures Education Fund

For youth formerly in care aging into community and pursuing post-secondary education, the last two years have been a particularly challenging time – both financially and from a mental health perspective.

The Youth Futures Education Fund, which provides for basic living expenses like rent, food, technology, counselling, and mental health support, means former youth in care have been supported as they cope and focus on their studies.

Since 2014, the Youth Futures Education Fund has distributed \$3 million to almost 2,200 students formerly in care.



Courageous youth pursues potential

21-year-old Sim has her sights set on a degree in Psychology. Thanks to her courage, high school guidance counsellors, and the Youth Futures Education Fund, she is on her way to success.

Sim's road to post-secondary education has been a long one, including attending high school while living in her 2003 Honda Civic and completing her GED (High School Equivalency Certificate) while on a BC Government Youth Agreement. Now in her second year at Langara College, she plans to take several more semesters before transferring to the University of British Columbia.

"I am beyond grateful for being given a chance to pursue my education in full force without struggling financially to survive," Sim says. "Thanks to donors like you, I got to thrive educationally and emotionally. You're helping young students like me get the support they need to realize their potential."



United in supporting seniors

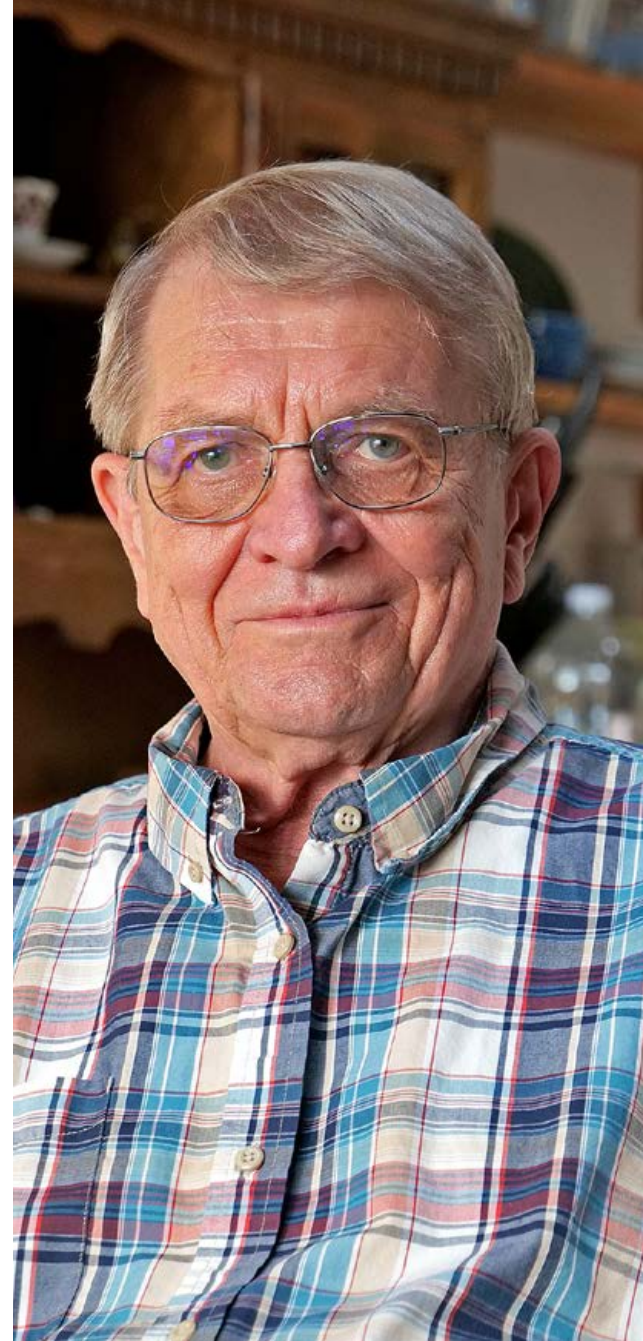
United Way British Columbia's Healthy Aging team administers funds and manages programs that support the non-medical needs of seniors, helping them to stay active, connected, and engaged. With the lifting of pandemic restrictions, the services offered shifted from an emphasis on check-ins to in-person programming.

Our **Better at Home** provincial network, funded by the Government of BC, has continued to expand and is now providing non-medical supports and services for over 12,200 seniors in more than 260 communities. This vital network plays a key role in a province-wide approach of ensuring older adults in BC live in healthy, caring, and inclusive communities.

Safe Seniors, Strong Communities, UWBC's provincially-coordinated response to the COVID-19 pandemic, provided services like food and prescription delivery and wellness checks for older British Columbians to stay safe and supported at home. More than 3,200 volunteers and over 5,500 participants were matched in 2021-22, and Healthy Aging's vast network of seniors-serving agencies ensured this emergency response initiative was accessible to all seniors and Elders living in BC.

Thanks to \$250,000 in funding from the Government of Canada, **Healthy Aging CORE (Collaborative Online Resources and Education) Canada** was launched nationwide. CORE Canada aims to help organizations across Canada access resources, communicate, coordinate, collaborate and learn from one another so they can better serve seniors and older adults.

Men's Sheds are community-based groups that support the health and well-being of members and foster positive engagement within their community, for the benefit of the community. In 2021, Healthy Aging launched an initiative to help strengthen, expand, and sustain the Men's Shed movement in Canada by providing start-up and project grants to 19 Sheds in BC.



The **Digital Learning Program**, initially launched as a pilot program in 2021, provides seniors with the knowledge, skills, and confidence to use computers, smartphones, and tablets. With devices in hand, more than 4,600 seniors learned how to access digital services like online banking or shopping, follow the news on social media and enjoy virtual visits with their family and friends, and used their devices to participate, virtually, in seniors centre programming.

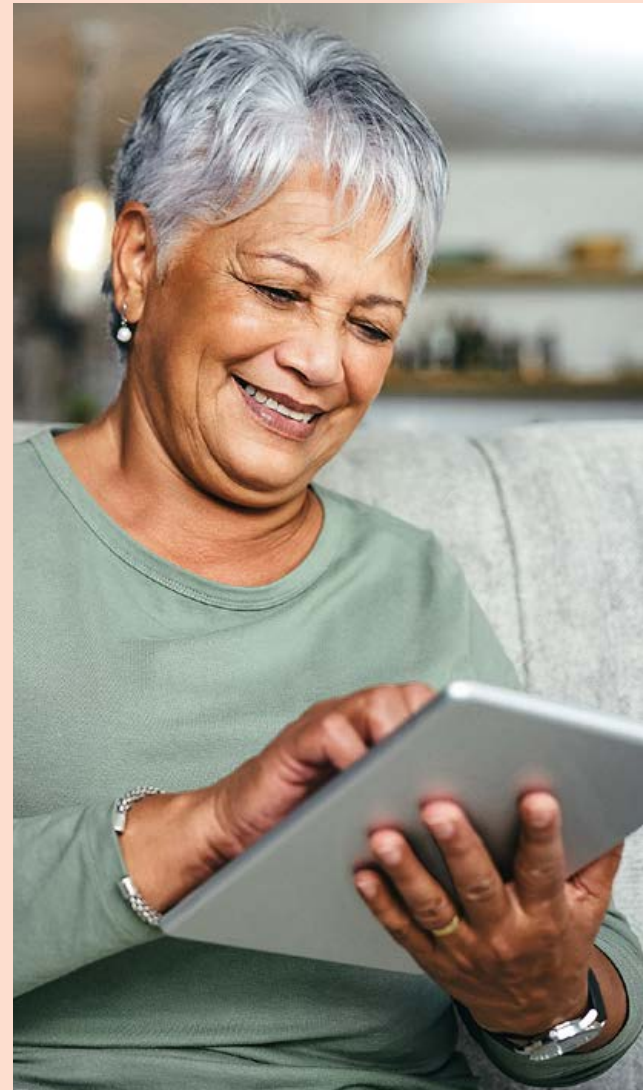
Vital connections in a virtual world

Marlene is 64 years old and had never used any kind of technology – not a cell phone, computer, tablet, anything – before starting out on her digital learning journey in June 2021.

Using a tablet provided by Literacy Alliance of the Shuswap Society and the weekly training sessions provided through the Enderby & District Community Resources Centre as part of UWBC's **Digital Learning Program**, Marlene has gained the confidence and the skills to use YouTube to listen to music, watch movies through Kanopy – a resource offered by the Okanagan Regional Library, as well as view cities and places she has previously lived using Google Earth. Most importantly, she is using email and Zoom to connect with others in the community.

The huge smile on Marlene's face during her first Zoom call said it all. You could literally see the confidence as well as the pride and joy shining through!

***NOTE:** More information about our seniors' programs will be available in our 2021-22 Healthy Aging Year in Review scheduled for release in September 2022.*



United in local neighbourhoods

Community gardens, seniors picnics, virtual family fun nights, and litter pick-up all have one thing in common; they are examples of people coming together to share their talents, culture, and care with, and for, their neighbours. In 12 communities across the Lower Mainland and Fraser Valley – including three new communities Babich-Mill Lake in Abbotsford, Como Lake in Coquitlam, and Newton in Surrey – United Way British Columbia's **Hi Neighbour** initiative showcased the resilience of community spirit and the importance of connection during the second year of the COVID-19 pandemic.

With the help of 164 Local Love projects supported by microgrants of up to \$1,000, over 13,000 residents came together in person or virtually to make a difference in their communities including Nick's Nook, a little Free Pantry in North Delta to the Clayton Story Walk, which allows families to enjoy reading and the outdoors, in Surrey.



Well-connected in community

Hi Neighbour Community Builder, Margaret, is working hard to make Sardis a better community for everyone. Working with United Way British Columbia's Upper Fraser Valley Regional Community Food Hub during the pandemic, Margaret started Extra F.A.R.E., a volunteer-run program that provides hampers to people with food allergies and intolerances.

She also used her learnings to help start the Chilliwack Market, a place where her community meets and eats.

That's what local love is all about!



United in service

Over 6,000 individuals are registered with **United Way British Columbia's iVolunteer** program to help and connect with neighbours in need in their communities. Working with 220 non-profit partners, workplaces, and Hi Neighbour Community Builders in 12 neighbourhoods across the Lower Mainland and Fraser Valley, volunteers found local opportunities that suited their passions, talents, and time.

From summer social events bringing together youth and seniors to share intergenerational conversations reducing social isolation brought on by COVID, to packing food hampers and running Little Free Pantries, which saw neighbour sharing food and necessities with neighbours in need and caring citizens taking part in sandbagging efforts during flooding in the Fraser Valley, United Way British Columbia volunteers helped strengthen vital connections improving mental health and positively impacting communities.



Do good, feel good

Jose and his daughter, Adelaida, do volunteer food delivery in Burnaby. When COVID hit, Jose became depressed and struggled to find purpose. He decided to try volunteering and signed on to United Way's iVolunteer online portal, which provides local opportunities to get involved in community.

"When I saw how happy volunteering made my dad feel, it made me happy too," says Adelaida.

Acts of kindness and helping others truly are rewarding in so many ways. Get involved at ivolunteer.ca.



United, we make a difference

United to end period poverty

Access to menstrual products can be challenging and COVID-19 made it even more difficult. The 2021 **Period Promise** campaign, presented by Pacific Blue Cross, mobilized individuals, unions, labour councils, and businesses to be part of the solution in unique ways as we continue to navigate the pandemic.

In 2021, 560,000 menstrual products were collected and distributed to 79+ agencies throughout the province to foster menstrual equity in our communities.



United in Labour

For over 40 years, United Way and the labour movement have been partners; working towards the common goal of ensuring workers and their families have access to life-changing social services across their communities.

In both the workplace and government, the labour movement advocates for better social, economic, and environmental policies while addressing social issues that can be difficult to talk about openly.

We are pleased to begin working more closely with the Canadian Labour Congress, 12 District Labour Councils, and their affiliated unions.



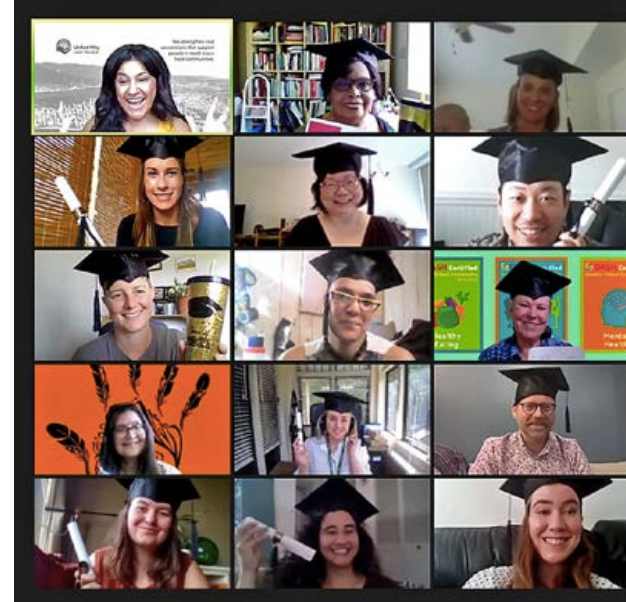
United for transformation

United for change in public policy

United Way's Public Policy Institute – our training and mentoring program for non-profit change-makers – moved to a fully online learning format in 2021, due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Nevertheless, 20 students from diverse non-profit organizations from across BC were able to connect, gain skills, and prepare to make a positive impact in their sectors and communities.

After a decade of service, we said farewell to Mike Harcourt and welcomed a new faculty lead. Carole James, former Deputy Premier of British Columbia and Minister of Finance, brings significant experience in policymaking and governance to the role and we know that she will have a great impact on the careers of our future students.

"Being encouraged to nurture an idea, that at first seemed like a dream, makes me realize that with the right support this good work is totally possible!" – 2021 Public Policy Institute graduate.

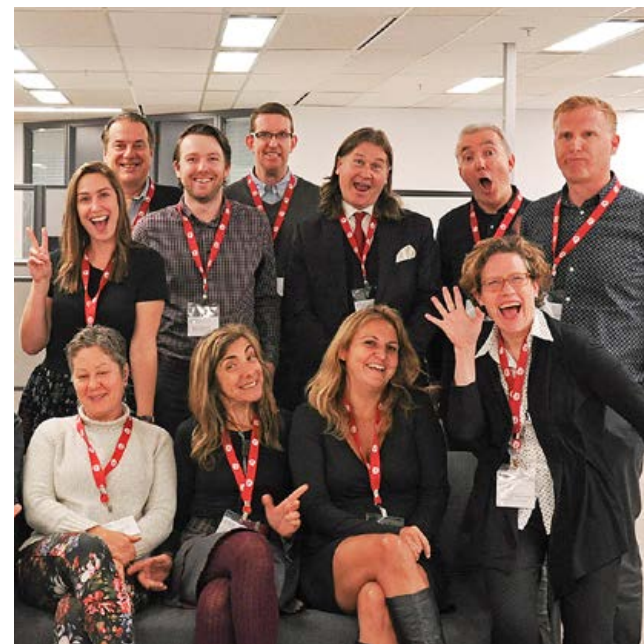


United for social purpose

By engaging our socially responsible business community in purpose, the **United Way Social Purpose Institute** helps businesses define their role in society as achieving business and community success.

In 2021, we helped cohorts of businesses uncover or refine their core, societal reason for being. We were also commissioned by the federal government to conduct research into policy options to advance a purpose economy.

Our 2021 Propelling Purpose Summit focused on the next step towards co-creating the Purpose Economy RoadMap 2.0. At the same time, we declared November 15 to 19 to be Purpose in Business Week – as did the Cities of Vancouver and Burnaby – creating dedicated space for our purpose allies to feature their work and commitment to Social Purpose, using the hashtag, #PurposeinBusinessWeek.



A person is sitting on a wooden deck, looking out over a vast landscape. The landscape features a river winding through a valley, surrounded by dense evergreen forests. In the distance, mountains are visible under a hazy sky. The entire image is overlaid with a semi-transparent red filter.

United across the province – local giving, local results

United Way British Columbia has offices in the Thompson Nicola Cariboo (Kamloops), BC's Southern Interior (Kelowna, Vernon, Trail, and Cranbrook), Lower Mainland (Burnaby), Fraser Valley (Abbotsford), and Central and Northern Vancouver Island (Nanaimo).

As part of our commitment to the regions upon amalgamation, dollars raised locally stay local. Four Regional Councils exist to represent and help drive the mission of United Way British Columbia in local communities and regions. Comprised of multi-sectoral representatives, including community members and labour, the Regional Councils provide leadership and guidance in the development and support of resources, local investments, networks, and awareness across the communities at large and to identify opportunities for impact in local communities.

United in Central & Northern Vancouver Island

Serving Central and Northern Vancouver Island and the diverse and vibrant mix of people and cultures living in the region north of the Malahat, we help communities thrive through access to resources.

In the Central and Northern Vancouver Island region, 39 programs were supported through United Way British Columbia to help people through the COVID-19 pandemic in 2021. Thanks to the generosity of our donors and partners, we were able to:

- Support community partners across our region by providing more than 30,000 vital personal protective equipment (PPE) including gloves and masks.
- Support the Farm to Family Meals Service on Denman Island. Local children received lunches at school and elders and seniors received the nutritious, prepared meals they required.
- Collected and distributed over 1,200 menstrual products as part of the Period Promise campaign to help those who struggle to purchase products, break stigma, and raise the profile of the issue in our community.
- Facilitated the Transportation Assistance Program in Cowichan. Over 5,000 transit tickets were given out to our vulnerable neighbours to help provide access to food, medical, and counselling appointments, employment supports, children or senior needs, and justice.

In addition, with the dedication and knowledge of the government and community members on the Reaching Home Community Advisory Boards in Cowichan and Nanaimo, we invested over \$3.6 million into 35 homelessness services across the region.

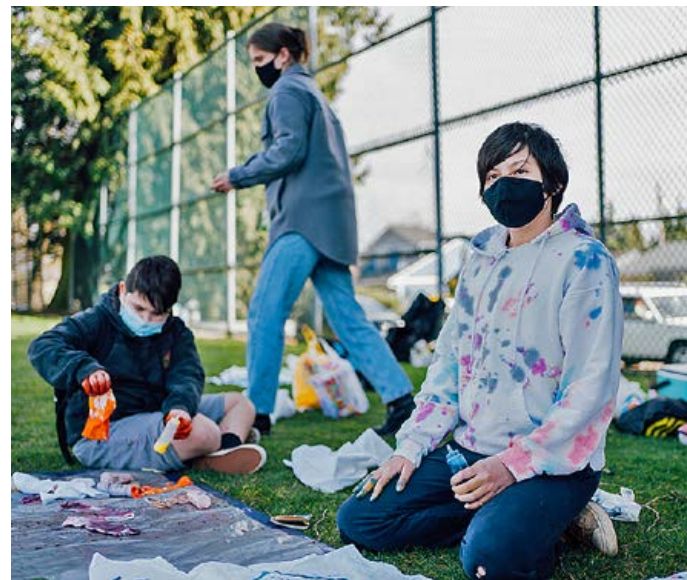


United in the Lower Mainland

Serving Metro Vancouver from the Sea to Sky corridor and the Sunshine Coast through to the Fraser Valley, we help strengthen vital community connections and support those in need.

Throughout the Lower Mainland and Fraser Valley, we continued our work in community building and supporting local kids, youth, families, seniors and individuals in need. Highlights of our work include:

- Bringing together over 3,000 resident volunteers via our Hi Neighbour Initiative to keep neighbourhoods connected and thriving through local events and activities, both in-person and virtually, to help combat isolation and pandemic fatigue.
- Supporting the Stigma-Free Society to develop the Create Hope Together – School's Out online toolkit, which serves as hub of resources, videos, activities, and information about mental health. Over 3,500 kids across the Lower Mainland and Fraser Valley made use of these online mental health supports.
- Distributing 123,720 child-sized masks to our United Way School's Out partners, Food Banks, newcomer and refugee service agencies, and school districts across the region.
- Redistributing 2,658,642 pounds of food from restaurants, grocery stores, and agricultural organizations with the help of seven food recovery organizations in the Lower Mainland, Fraser Valley, and Sea to Sky Corridor. Over 3,200 volunteers sorted produce, packed hampers, and made meals in community kitchens, which were then transported and delivered to individuals isolating at home.
- Jumping in on the ground when devastating floods impacted the Fraser Valley, our local Community Builders were quickly able to identify and respond to gaps and unmet needs. They helped source food, equipment and necessary supplies, advocated for the rights of migrant farm workers, and worked closely with the Skwah First Nation to ensure that basic needs could be met.



United in the Thompson Nicola Cariboo

Serving Thompson, Nicola, and Cariboo from the Rockies to Copper Desert, we invest in programs and initiatives that change lives.

In 2021, we invested over \$1.3 million dollars to support over 76,500 unique individuals in the Thompson Nicola Cariboo region through our Community Fund, New Horizons Seniors Funding, Emergency Community Support Fund, and our United Way Sector Stabilization Fund.

In addition to this important work, we:

- Stepped up to help our neighbours during a time of crisis, investing over \$550K in Emergent Response funding to local communities affected by devastating fires and floods. We are committed to supporting the rebuilding and recovery of these communities in the years to come.
- Scaled out United Way British Columbia programs by expanding our iVolunteer program into our area, launching a new Regional Food Hub in Williams Lake and Hi Neighbour initiatives in Lytton and Merritt.
- Focused on our non-profit sector strengthening work by conducting workshops and by undertaking research to better understand local community needs and help guide our work going forward.
- Continued to facilitate the Community Action Team in Kamloops (CAT) including representatives from government, first nations, health authorities, non-profit organizations, and concerned citizens to discuss the current overdose epidemic.
- Distributed more than 8,700 bus tickets through our Emergency Transportation program in partnership with the City of Kamloops to allow for barrier-free access to community service programs and resources.

In service to creating a healthy, caring, inclusive community, we are committed to tackling complex and pressing social issues in our region and strengthening vital connections for those in need.



United in BC's Southern Interior

Serving the Okanagan, Columbia, Shuswap, Similkameen Trail and District, and East Kootenays, we help cultivate local love in our communities.

In 2021, the impacts of the pandemic and climate related events reverberated through BC's Southern Interior but our communities rallied in a great show of support. Two milestone Drive-Thru events were held in the North Okanagan and South Okanagan with record breaking turnouts and over \$55K raised to help those in need.

Thanks to the incredible generosity of United Way British Columbia donors and partners, we:

- Helped communities affected by wildfires by supporting Emergency Support Services, food security, and mental health across the Northern and Central Okanagan, and by opening emergency pop-up camps for children in Vernon.
- Supported flooded communities in the North Okanagan (Armstrong, Enderby, Revelstoke, Salmon Arm, Vernon), South Okanagan (Oliver, Penticton, Princeton), Central Okanagan (Kelowna, Lake Country, Peachland, West Kelowna), and Kootenays (Cranbrook) by providing mental health supports, food security, essential items, outreach, and advocacy. We also sourced sump pumps and coordinated in-kind donations including 240 pairs of shoes as well as household products and appliances.
- Launched a Hi Neighbour initiative in Princeton and a new Regional Food Hub in Vernon.
- Continued our Child Safety Initiative, delivering 215 car seats to local families in need, and CODenagan – a no-barrier tech education program for under-privileged local youth.
- Distributed Christmas hampers and gifts for children and youth to more than 75 households in the Beaver Valley area in Trail and District.
- Expanded our Period Promise initiative, Child Safety Initiative, Food Hub, and Better at Home seniors services across BC's Southern Interior.



It feels good to give.

We want you to feel good about how we put your dollars to work.

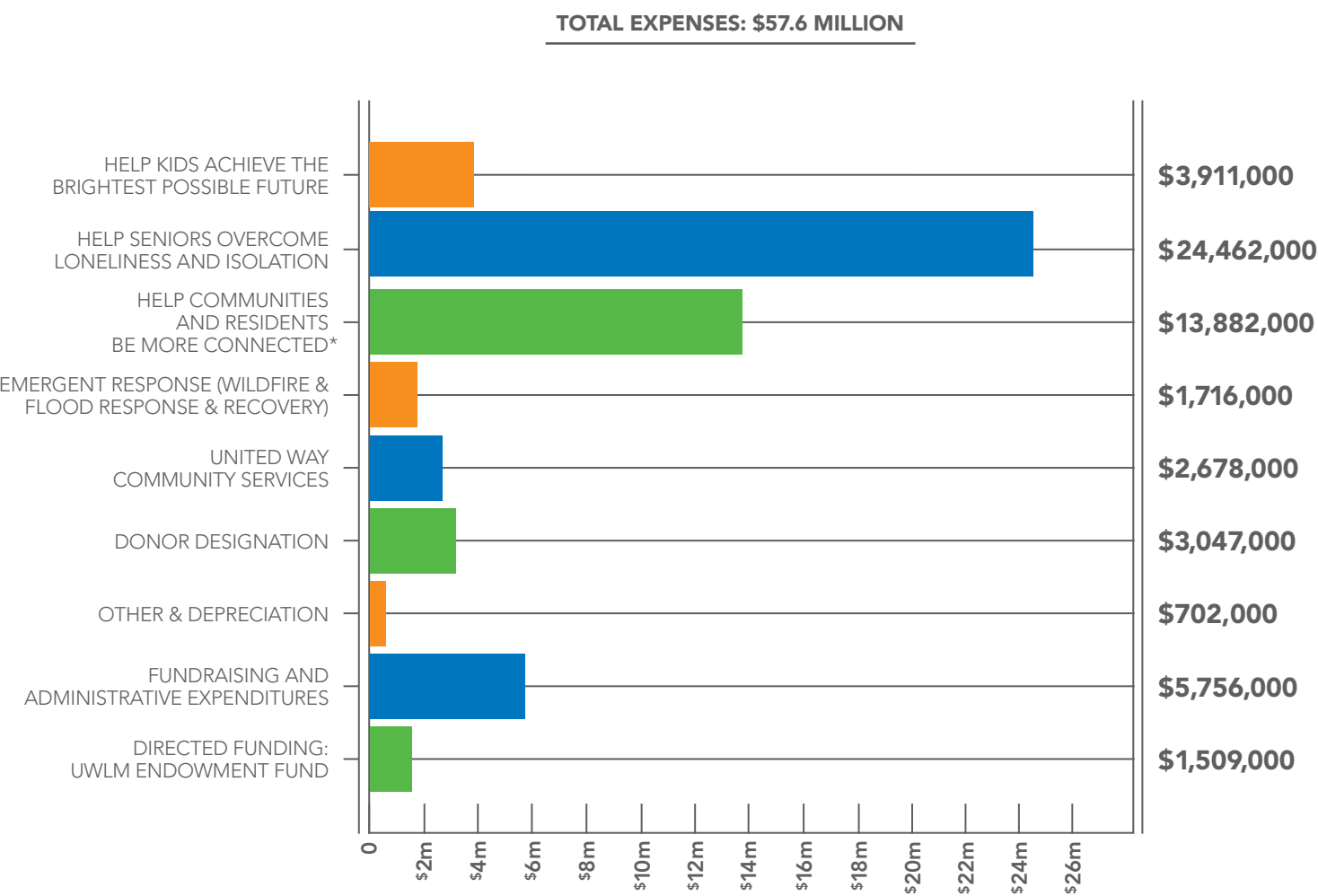
Your gifts to United Way are leveraged through our connections and partnerships with community service agencies, businesses, unions, universities, government and more to amplify our collective impact.

And on our end, we work hard to keep administrative and fundraising costs low. United Way continually meets standards for excellence for charitable administration.



Your dollars at work

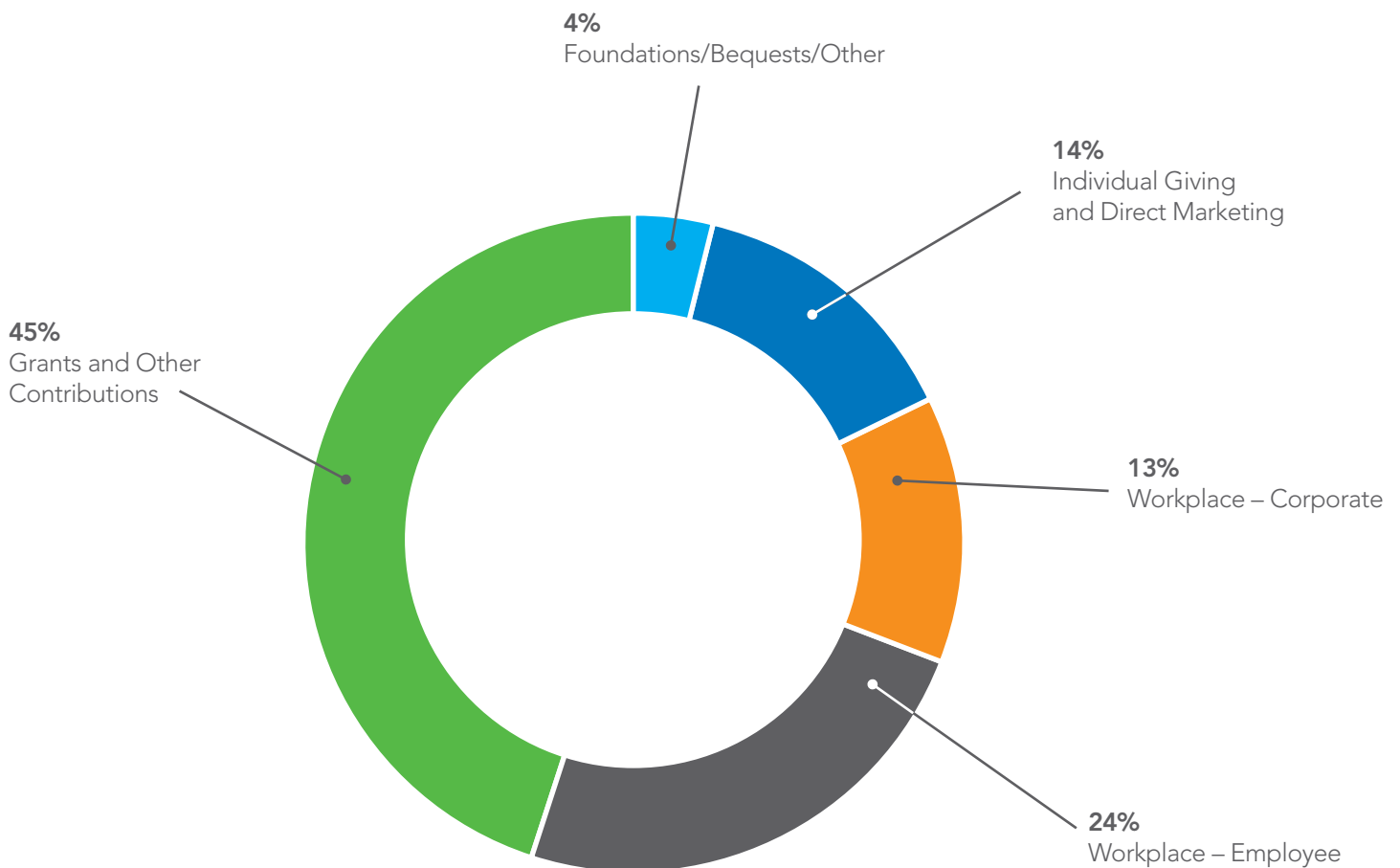
Your contribution helps us build a strong social support network providing programs and services for communities in need. Your generosity allowed us to be responsive during another challenging year and helped to ensure our friends and neighbours were cared for and connected.



* includes the following programs and initiatives: Hi Neighbour, Food Security, Period Promise, BC211, iVolunteer, and other regional community investments

How the money came in

We use our collective strength to multiply our impact and maximize our donors' dollars to help make our communities more connected, safer and healthier.



Board of Directors 2021–2022

Our Board of Directors is a group of dedicated leaders, both in their professions and in our communities. Their goal: to strengthen vital connections across communities to support those in need and to inspire action. They volunteer their time to help govern United Way British Columbia with a mix of knowledge, insight, and passion.

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Vice Chairman
Connor, Clark & Lunn
Private Capital Ltd.

Robin Dhir

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Twin Brook Developments Ltd.
& Strategic Advisor
Fasken

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Partner
BDO Canada LLP

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Heather Johnson

Senior Consultant
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Chief Financial Officer
Coast Capital

Ian Gordon

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Labour Council

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Regional Director
Canadian Labour Congress

Handol Kim

Co-Founder and CEO
Variational AI Inc.

Travis Bryson

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Pauline Hadley-Beauregard

Partner
Crux Strategic Clarity

Nicolas Jimenez

President and CEO
ICBC

Jennifer Robins

Executive Director
Launch Financial
Services Society



Moving Forward – United

At United Way British Columbia, our vision is to create a healthy, caring, inclusive community.

We will do this by working closely with our donors and partners – in community, government, business and labour – to strengthen vital connections that support people in need in our local communities.

We will achieve this by:

- Bringing people together and inspiring local action
- Connecting our rigorous evidence-based approach with community listening and consultation
- Collaborating to co-create solutions
- Stepping in where gaps exist
- Bringing our unique strengths and expertise as a fund and program manager
- Building transformative, long-term donor relationships
- Inspiring and mentoring leadership

Moving Forward – United

Here are just some of the initiatives that we will be working on in the year ahead:

UWBC and BC211 Integrate – further strengthening supports for British Columbians

To increase positive impact in communities across the province, United Way British Columbia and BC211 amalgamated on April 1, 2022. This union further strengthens our ability to connect all British Columbians to vital community programs and services for both everyday needs and in times of crisis. While this service has been providing critical resources for people in need across the province, this integration also made it possible for UWBC to partner in supporting displaced Ukrainians arriving in BC during a moment of turmoil and trauma. To learn more about this free information and referral service, please visit bc.211.ca.

A healthy, caring, inclusive community connects everyone

United Way British Columbia is privileged to work with and learn from Black, Indigenous, and People of Colour (BIPOC) in our communities. We strive to be a model of diversity, equity, and inclusion by supporting and promoting these values throughout our organization with our staff and volunteers, and in service to our whole community.

We have embarked on a journey to establish a Justice, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (JEDI) framework, and look forward to sharing the completed project publicly next year.

Hi Neighbour to help BC communities recover from disasters

Seven new Hi Neighbour communities will be added as part of our Emergent Response initiative, which was spurred by the compounding crises in 2021. These include Hi Neighbour Lytton, Merritt, and Princeton, all of which were impacted by devastating wildfires and floods.



United for the Fraser Valley: Community Re-builder Initiative

UWBC will launch Local Love microgrants and Community Re-builders in four prioritized Fraser Valley communities this year including those of Indigenous peoples, farmers, and migrant workers thanks to a \$500K gift from the Dennis & Phyllis Washington Foundation, Southern Railway of British Columbia, and the Washington Companies including Seaspan. This is exciting and desperately needed work for those in need of this support.

Portal to connect volunteers with community needs across the province

We are excited to share that we are launching our iVolunteer program across all of our regions in the Fall of 2022! This will give local community members the opportunity to engage in meaningful ways right in their local neighbourhoods, particularly in times of crisis when compassionate British Columbians are looking to support one another.

United for Ukraine

The invasion of Ukraine has deeply affected us all. Millions of Ukrainians have been suddenly displaced from their homes. As a result, many people are arriving in Canada and settling in communities across BC. We're eager to ensure that displaced Ukrainians are welcomed with as much compassion and warmth as possible and have been overwhelmed by the generosity of kind citizens willing to help in any way they can.

With your support, we can strengthen vital connections for communities in need. Thank you for welcoming our new neighbours and helping them settle in. This is what local love is all about.

Coming Soon: United Way British Columbia Food Security Data Hub

The United Way British Columbia Food Security Data Hub will enable stakeholders to collaborate in real time and improve community access to available high quality, fresh, and culturally appropriate food both locally and regionally. The anticipated technology will be accessible to stakeholders to input and securely manage their data, quickly generate reports, and collaborate with partners. The data hub will allow for standardized data, future looking modelling and analysis, as well as high-level micro and macro strategic views of the state of food security in British Columbia.



Thank you for showing your **local love.**



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United Way BC - Lower Mainland Region



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United Way British Columbia



United Way
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Working with communities in BC's
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