



Welcome to a community where more is possible

2024/2025 Annual Impact Report



2024/2025 Foundation Leadership

Board of Directors

Kara Douglas
Andrew MacRitchie
Victoria Ninaber
Heidi Van Roon, Chair

Leadership Team

Scott D. Campbell, Executive Director
More Than a Roof Foundation

Lee-Anne Michayluk, CEO
More Than a Roof Housing Society

We acknowledge that we are on the unceded territories of the Coast Salish Peoples, including the x̱mə̀ḵə̀y̱əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and sə́liḻw̱ə́tə́ʔ (Tsleil-Waututh) nations in Vancouver. We recognize and respect the enduring relationships that Indigenous peoples have with these territories, and are committed to honouring the land and its peoples.

Photos, this page (top left, clockwise): Camryn Rogers, Olympian and 2026 Distinguished Alumni Award recipient; Tatem family, 2026 Award recipients; Heidi Van Roon, Foundation Board Chair and Alejandro Sanchez, 2026 Award recipient; a group of 2026 Award recipients (MTRF/Rachel Pick)

Photos, cover (top right, clockwise): Laura Jean McLeod, 2026 Award recipient (MTRF/Matt Reznick); Quinn Cooper, 2026 Award recipient (photo provided by Quinn Cooper); Aurelia and Matias Siles and Maria Ponce, 2026 Award recipients (MTRF/Rachel Pick); Camryn Rogers, Olympian and 2026 Distinguished Alumni Award recipient (MTRF/Rachel Pick)



A Note For You



On April 30th, something truly special happened.

More than 200 people — More Than a Roof residents, donors, sponsors, board members, and staff—gathered in a Vancouver ballroom and transformed the More Than a Roof Foundation into something more than an organization. **That night, it became a community.**

The occasion was our inaugural More Than a Roof Foundation Awards Celebration, and while it may sound like a cliché, the evening was truly unforgettable. I wasn't alone in feeling that way. For many, it was the highlight of the year — look at all the smiles just to the left here!

I still have vivid memories: celebrating the recipients of our 2025 financial and merit awards, sharing delicious food, engaging in meaningful conversations, and hearing inspiring stories of challenge, triumph, and hope.

In the hours and days that followed, I kept hearing the same thing from guests. They felt a genuine connection with others in the room. People from all walks of life, united by a belief in the power of generosity.

My takeaway? The evening was a balm for many souls bruised by life's hardships. It reminded many of us that a community can be a source of strength. **It reminded us that more is possible.**

Reflecting on the past year, I feel deeply encouraged. Generous donors have stepped up in remarkable ways, and because of their support, the Foundation's impact continues to grow. And there is still so much more to do.

As you read this Annual Impact Report, I hope you feel that same sense of encouragement. I hope you catch a glimpse of the community that's emerging—a community that is hopeful, committed, and energized to break cycles of poverty and homelessness across the province. That's something special.

Thank you for being a part of it,

Scott D. Campbell, Executive Director
scampbell@morethanaroom.org | 604.215.4648 | morethanaroom.foundation

Your Impact

Through scholarships, bursaries, grants and direct program funding support, we championed MTR residents to take big steps forward in their goals—whether it's pursuing their studies, improving their health and wellness, or providing them with the tools and opportunities they need to be more deeply connected with their community. Here's a snapshot of the impact you made in people's lives...

Investing in education and training



Scholarships

This year, over \$32,000 was awarded to students pursuing studies in a variety of fields at colleges and universities across our province.

“I am so grateful for this award. It helped me pay my deposit to hold my spot at the University of Victoria. It also covered my tuition for two prerequisite courses I had to take online through Thompson Rivers University. It really was the perfect timing to receive this scholarship — thank you.”

— Ahmed*



Bursaries

From sending kids to soccer and overnight camps to supporting young people with the tools they need to succeed in their jobs, over \$9,000 was distributed in bursaries in 2025.

“This bursary will provide Matias with the opportunity to attend the Real Madrid Summer Soccer Camp hosted in Vancouver. Led by internationally recognized coaches from the legendary Spanish soccer club, Real Madrid, the camp is a unique and inspiring experience for young athletes like Matias to grow as players and as people.”

— Aurelia, Matias' mother

Nourishing our community



Grants

People thrive in community — but community doesn't just happen. Investments this year in community parties, cultural celebrations and clubs helped to combat isolation, encouraged collaboration and opened more opportunities for people to journey meaningfully together through life.

“Our team at Sunset Towers has thrown many cultural appreciation events through this grant. From Lunar New Year to Carnival to Ruz, the stories, music, food and games draw residents together to celebrate and connect.”

— Sunset Towers' Community Coordinators



Soul Kitchen

Soul Kitchen is MTR's flagship food program, located in Karis Place, an MTR residence in Downtown Vancouver. Every week, over 300 hot, nutritious meals are served at a low cost to residents at MTR's four downtown communities, filling tummies and creating new opportunities for connection.

“I eat at Soul Kitchen and rely on the weekly meals...Even after six years in recovery and three years of not being homeless I struggle with selfcare and routine meal times living alone. Having meals on regular days and times with the option to socialize has greatly enhanced the quality of my life.”

— Laura, MTR Resident



Food Pantries

In communities across BC, MTR supports resident-led pantry initiatives that provide people with access to free food items and household staples. These projects combat food insecurity for families, seniors and singles.

“It's like night and day from how I used to live. Now I always have a home to come back to and a meal in front of me. I have friends and people to pray with me during hard times.”

— MTR Resident

Photos: *Name changed for security reasons (MTRF/Rachel Pick); Matias (provided by Aurelia Siles); Sunset Towers Cultural Days featuring Ezra Lee, Patrizia Vicencio, Ingrid Gomez, Arshin Masjoud (provided by MTR staff), Laura Jean McLeod (MTRF/Matt Reznik), Levi Hopkinson (MTRF/Matt Reznik)



Laura Jean McLeod (MTRF/Matt Reznick)

From Hunger to Hope: Laura's Story

Laura spent 15 years homeless or underhoused. She stayed at parties all night because she had nowhere to go. She bounced from one shelter to the next. She slept under tarps or bridges.

Laura remembers being alone all the time. She often looked for a security camera and slept nearby, hoping that someone was keeping an eye on her from afar. She was sure she would die this way: alone, hungry and on the streets.

In 2022 Laura moved into an apartment at Sunset Towers, one of More than a Roof's residences in Vancouver's West End. For the first time in her life, Laura has a place of her own to call home.

Once alone and hungry, she now finds herself nourished — her heart and stomach full — in part by the community found at Soul Kitchen, More Than a Roof's community-centred food program in downtown Vancouver.

Three days a week, residents like Laura walk down the hall, gather together around tables, and tuck into Chef Levi's famous stews, soups and hot breakfasts. As the meals wind down, conversation kicks up. New friendships are formed, familiar smiles emerge and the community is strengthened.

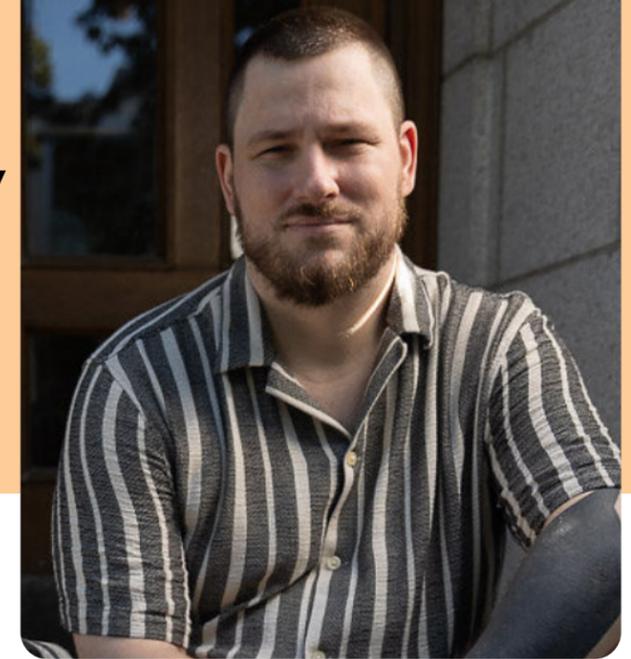
"Food is the reason people come to these programs. They come to eat, especially at first. But then, they find connections."

With a safe home, regular healthy meals and a stable community, Laura is now a mentor, advocate, and community leader. She volunteers at women's shelters, is reconnected with her adult children and is building relationships with her granddaughters.



\$5 is all it takes to provide someone with a meal at Soul Kitchen. Scan to learn more and give today.

A Long Journey Home: Jordan's Story



Jordan Benza (MTRF/Matt Reznick)

"It took me a while to get here," Jordan says with a pause. "But it was worth the wait."

After being an honour roll student all through elementary school, Jordan's life began to spiral as his dad fell further into his alcoholism. Following the deaths of both of his parents, Jordan managed to complete two years of university before he found himself homeless.

"It was awful. I was crashing on couches, living out of garbage bags, not knowing what was coming. I never want to do that again. Not having somewhere to go — I can't describe how terrible it was."

One day, enough was enough. Jordan committed himself to healing. Today, he is four years sober from an addiction to prescription painkillers and has made a home for himself in one of More Than a Roof's Vancouver communities.

"This is the first time in over a decade where I can say that I have a real home...and it's been worth the wait to be here."

"Because I have a home, I did my income taxes for the first time, paid off my debts, got a new bed, and got a pet bunny named Evie...normal things. I finally have a home that I know I can build my life around. I even bought pots and pans!"

And with the support of MTR Foundation donors, Jordan is back in school as a recipient of an MTR Foundation Scholarship.

"I'm finishing my Bachelors of Arts in Psychology at UBC," he shares proudly. "When I'm done, I'd like to do my Masters of Education so I can work with kids."

Scan the QR code to read more stories of residents building more hopeful futures.



Gathering our community

In the Spring of 2025, the MTR Foundation community gathered to celebrate our first class of scholarship, bursary, grant and special awards recipients. It was a night of unbridled optimism and a potent reminder of the power of a community that believes that more is possible.



“I like the spirit of the sport...We play for fun and to learn the skills. It’s an active sport and I like getting good exercise. I have also met a lot of friends playing Ultimate.”

- Nathaniel, 2025 Bursary Recipient
Attended a summer camp for Ultimate frisbee



“I especially value web accessibility. I believe digital content should be usable for everyone, including people with disabilities...This scholarship means the world to me, as I never imagined that I would have the means to get an education in a field that I’m passionate about.”

- Quinn, 2025 Scholarship Recipient,
BCIT



“[This community grant] will bring people together who have been struggling since COVID. It will promote engagement, belonging and will reduce their isolation.”

- Blair, 2025 Community Grant
Recipient to host community celebrations



“I have the empathy and compassion to pursue a career in mental health, substance abuse and social justice...I believe that my passion for learning and my commitment to these fields will enable me to provide effective support and advocacy for individuals facing mental health challenges, substance abuse issues and social injustices.”

- Kalijan, 2025 Scholarship Recipient
Douglas College, Mental Health and Substance Use Worker Program

Photos: Nathaniel Tatem (MTRF/Rachel Pick), Quinn Cooper (provided by Quinn Cooper), Blaire Coleman (MTRF/Rachel Pick), Kalijan Taylor (MTRF/Rachel Pick), Geoff Tessarolo and guest from VanMar Constructors (MTRF/Rachel Pick), Alejandro (provided by Luis Sanchez), Dana Aldon and friends from Pilotfish Networks (MTRF/Rachel Pick) and Brenna Stubbs (provided by Brenna Stubbs)



“We attend many charitable dinners and events — there was a genuineness to your [event] that was truly heartwarming.”

- Geoff (right), VanMar Constructors
2025 Awards Dinner Sponsor



“Alejandro started playing soccer in Nicaragua, where we are from, because his cousin plays on the national team there. All Alejandro talks about is soccer, he’s always with a ball and loves watching his favourite player, Cristiano Ronaldo.”

- Luis, Alejandro’s father, Alejandro received the 2025 Bursary Recipient,
Attended a summer soccer camp



“It was good for some of our staff to catch a bit of the vision — that in supporting MTR, we’re not just providing tech support, but helping enable the great work the organization is doing. We’re happy to be a small part of it.”

- Dana (middle), Pilotfish Networks
2025 Awards Dinner Sponsor



“Honourable environmental management matters to me as a Canadian and as someone who wants to keep my home in BC livable throughout the lives of my future children and grandchildren to enjoy.”

- Brenna, 2025 Scholarship Recipient,
UBC



Scan the QR code today to champion one of next year’s recipients. Your gift moves our community towards their dreams of more in 2026 and beyond.

Building a more hopeful future, together.

In 2025 we had the privilege of honouring four unique individuals with MTR Foundation's flagship awards. Together, these recipients reflect our core values of generosity, compassion, dignity and change, and demonstrate a commitment to building a more hopeful future.



Randall Shier

CEO Emeritus, Mission Group
MTR Foundation's 2025 Heart for Home
Award Recipient

“Randy, to his core, adores his wife and loves the empathy she has for people. Where Randy is mission-driven and efficient, Sandy feels things deeply and is a champion for the underdogs and the marginalized — she has an incredible passion for helping others. Randy turns to Sandy to show him the way in this area of his life. Randy is thoughtful and purposeful and he’s been blessed beyond measure. With Sandy at his side, he has the ability to help others, and so he does.”

- Jon Friesesn
Randall Shier's longtime business partner

Randall Shier (provided by Randall Shier)

The Heart for Home Award recognizes British Columbian business leaders working in the real estate development and home building industries who are doing more to break cycles of poverty and homelessness.



Nick Chapman Jones

Director of Programs, Whole Way House
MTR Foundation's 2025 Distinguished Alumni
Award Recipient

“Nick has a very strong ability to adapt to changing circumstances. He is innovative, creative and thoughtful about how we can be most effective as an organization. As a leader he takes care of his team, and they trust him because he has integrity and he always puts people first.”

- Jenny Konkin
CEO, Whole Way House

Nick Chapman Jones (MTRF/Rachel Pick)

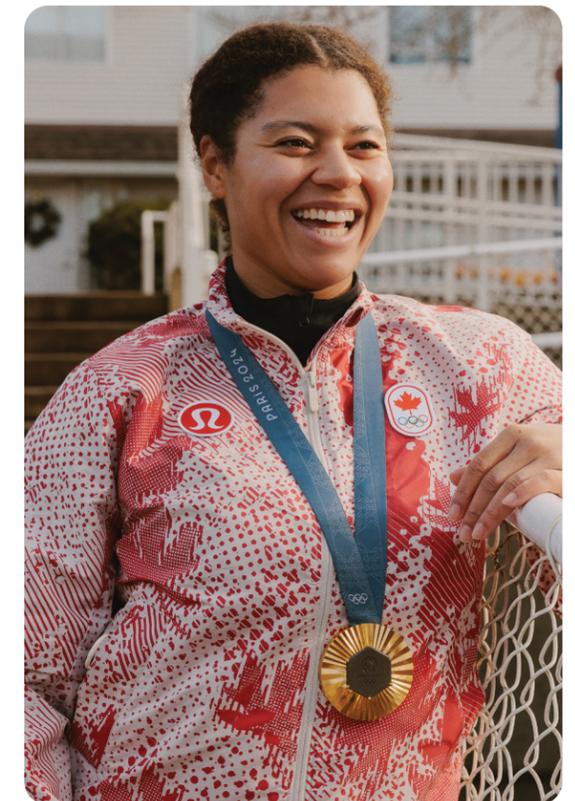
The Distinguished Alumni Awards recognize former MTR residents making a positive contribution at their place of employment, in their families or in the communities in which they choose to live.

Camryn Rogers

Olympic Gold Medalist 2024, Track and Field
MTR Foundation's 2025 Distinguished Alumni
Award Recipient

“It’s hard to imagine what life would have been like if we hadn’t had More Than a Roof. It’s been one of the major foundational aspects of what we’ve been able to develop in our lives. More Than A Roof gave us a second chance, it gave us a fighting chance...And when you realize you’ve been given that chance, you can’t just let it go.”

- Camryn Rogers



Camryn Rogers (MTRF/Rachel Pick)



Eva Tatem

Grade 12 student
MTR Foundation's 2025 Keyholder Award Recipient

“There’s that idea of ‘like attracts like’ — and I find I can connect with other people who are neurodivergent. We can gripe about things together. And we can help each other through things and offer support. There were ups and downs to the diagnosis, but it has helped me learn a lot about myself and connect with a lot of people.”

- Eva Tatem

Evangeline Tatem (MTRF/Rachel Pick)

The **Keyholder Award** recognizes residents demonstrating attributes MTR believes are key to building a hopeful future including leadership, resilience and compassion.



Scan the QR code to learn more about the 2025 Foundation Awards.



Celebrating Real People Creating Real Change



**MORE THAN A ROOF
FOUNDATION AWARDS**

2026 | **vanMar**
CONSTRUCTORS INC.

April 28th, 2026
Paradox Hotel, Vancouver

In April, we will gather again to recognize individuals pursuing education, training, and stronger communities.

We also recognize people and organizations in our broader community who are doing more to break cycles of poverty and homelessness.

You can champion an MTR resident. Fund a scholarship, bursary or grant and join us in April to celebrate with the More Than a Roof community.

Visit morethanarof.foundation/donate

Financial Review

When you give to More than a Roof Foundation, you are helping break cycles of homelessness and poverty for people across BC.

If you have any questions about our financials or about the impact you are making through your generous support, please reach out to our team at foundation@morethanaroom.org or 604-215-4648.

Revenue: **\$460,779**

Donations: \$227,799

Investment Gains: \$232,980

Expenses: **\$669,064**



Devries Family Endowment: **\$2,003,766**

(end of year not including earnings)

Since the endowment's inception in 2021, the Foundation's Board of Directors has chosen to disburse close to \$500,000 to fund scholarships, bursaries, and grants for residents, as well as food security and community-building initiatives, frontline staff training, and direct program support.



Financial integrity and transparency is important to us. Scan the QR code to review the Foundation's full audited financial statements.

Praying

By Dilan Qadir

A prayer draws and levels my palms
in front of my chest,
lifting my gaze toward the sky,
where they say benevolence dwells,
where geese fly in the distance,
where dreams of freedom take flight,
and where border agents hold no sway
over clouds.

A prayer guides my eyes toward the horizon
where an orange-like sun
bids its farewell:
May your words burn like candles,
their glow a refuge
against the darkness.



Photo courtesy of Dilan Qadir

Dilan Qadir is a Kurdish-Canadian writer based in Vancouver who was named one of the 2025 Writers' Trust of Canada's Rising Stars.

We are proud that Dilan calls a More Than a Roof community home. Dilan has been working as an on-call support worker in the field of addiction and mental health for the past four years. During this time, he has seen the immense need for more trained, professional, and dedicated workers in this field.

To advance his career and help fill this gap he sees in our community, Dilan is currently pursuing the Counselling Skills Foundations certificate at Vancouver Community College. In 2025, a bursary provided by More Than a Roof Foundation helped him pay tuition for the program. Ultimately, Dilan would like to potentially pursue a masters degree in counselling.



“My goal is to be the kind of support I once needed—to be the helping hand that God calls me to be. If I can bring even a mustard seed of hope to just one person, I’ll have done what I set out to do.”

- Emma, 2025 Scholarship Recipient

Photo courtesy of Barnabas Landing



**More Than a Roof™
Foundation**

#100 - 1515 Charles Street Vancouver, BC V5L 2T2
Registered Canadian Charity: 845265149 RR0001

morethanaroor.foundation
foundation@morethanaroor.org
604-215-4648

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