

Mission Community Foundation

AGM REPORT 2024



Building Community Through Philanthropy



Mission Community Foundation

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History

Mr. G.W. (Bill) Harris, a long-time Mission resident and former Mayor, recognized the need for an organization where Mission residents could donate funds, to be held in perpetuity, for the benefit of this community and its citizens.

This organization became known as the Mission Community Foundation – a non-profit charitable organization for the benefit of the citizens of Mission.

Mr. Harris, together with others who had a similar vision, approached the then Dewdney Constituency M.L.A.s for their support. Austin Pelton and Norm Jacobsen sponsored Bill Pr404 and the Mission Foundation was born. Financial assistance during its early years was provided by the Mission Rotary and Kinsmen Clubs, McKnight Johnson and Partners and by the Founders: Norman Cook, G.W. Harris, Albert McMahon, Gordon Ruley, G.W. Walker, and John Weisgerber.

The first fund entrusted to the Mission Foundation came through the estate of the late Margaret Erskine in the amount of \$228,000 to support students pursuing post-secondary education. The Foundation has grown exponentially since then, thanks to the many incredibly generous donations made by community members.

The Mission Community Foundation is managed by a board of eleven. There are six elected volunteer members and five appointed members representing Mission City, Mission Public School District, Mission Regional Chamber of Commerce, Mission Community Services Society and Fraser Valley Regional District.

The Mission Community Foundation Board of Directors relies upon a professional team, including a Wealth Management Group, Bookkeeper, Auditor and Executive Director to provide advice, ensure legal requirements are met and to look after the day-to-day administration.



Our Mission

To bring together generous benefactors and the strength of our community to enable the disbursement of scholarships, bursaries, and grants for Mission citizens.



About Mission Community Foundation



Mission Community Foundation was founded on June 26, 1987, with monies donated through the estate of Margaret Erskine. Unlike other Foundations in BC and Canada, our Foundation was created by an Act of Parliament through a Private Members Bill. It serves the City of Mission and all areas included in School District #75's catchment.

It has representatives from the City of Mission, Mission Community Services Society, Mission Regional Chamber of Commerce, Fraser Valley Regional District, and School District #75, who sit on our Board of Directors with six (6) elected individuals. Together they manage the funds entrusted to the Foundation via Committee recommendations and a dedicated investment management team.

MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD CHAIR



Shelley Carter
Board Chair
Mission Community
Foundation

Mission Community Foundation is located on the Traditional, Ancestral, Unsurrendered, and Shared territories of Sto:lo People, Leq'amel, Sema:th, Mathxwi Sq'ewlets, and Quo:ltl'el First Nations, stewards of this land since time immemorial.

Hello everyone and Ey Swayel,

We, at the Mission Community Foundation, saw again many changes for the positive this year.

We said a fond goodbye and a huge thank you to Bernadine Babuik, who stepped into the role of ED for the transition period. With her expertise in Admin, we were in good hands. We also gave our appreciative goodbyes to board members, Erin Osterberg and Gurdeep Toor. We welcomed Julia Renkema to the Board of Directors.

We had discussions on Policy review and terms of reference moving forward at the Development Committee.

We retained Stephen Pomeroy again as Auditor and Red to Black bookkeeping for the year.

We cannot say enough kind words to our investment team. Lonny, Nik, Elijah, and Mark are so good at what they offer and do for us, and we can't thank them enough.

There was a move from the Lifetime Learners fund to gift spendable funds to the Mission Archives. We were saddened to hear that Lifetime Learners had to fold.

We also had \$ 335,120.63 in donations for the year 2024. We received \$300,000.00 from the Prosperity Fund gifted to us through the Vancouver Foundation from a \$25 million multi-year program to community organizations in B.C.

We were lucky to have the Mission Chamber of Commerce offer the Foundation Directors a governance course that some attended this year, and we will be continuing this practice with all new members. Good professional development for anyone that sits at a Board table.

Applications flowed in from the students and adult learners. We had approximately 95 students (Grade 12) that came for interviews. Lucas, Shelley, and Linda interviewed for 2 full days at the School Board office.

We had a successful Cooke Awards/Scholarship evening at the Clarke Theatre. There were 36 Cooke Award recipients and 75 Scholarship recipients. \$152,000 was handed out for scholarships to 17 - 2nd Year/Adult students and 58 Grade 12 students. We must give a great big thank you and recognition to the many school staff and support staff that help the students fill out the applications for the scholarship process.

Both Grant cycles saw an increase in the number of applicants and the large need for support in this community, from food security, to supports in the classrooms, to Trades and community support to many other needs. We gave away \$73,208.00 for Grant Cycle 1 to 13 recipients and \$120,470 for Grant Cycle 2 to 18 recipients.

MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD CHAIR CONTINUED

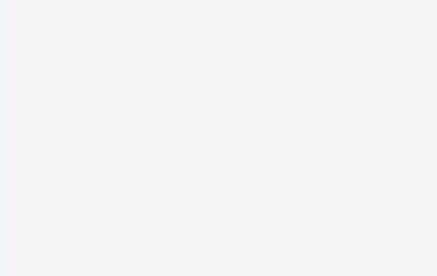
We would like to thank all the people that took the time to fill out the applications for their community groups with the 2 Grant Cycles we provide. These supports if successful make real changes in the City of Mission/FVRD and surrounding areas. We are again so very grateful to walk alongside all of you. There are always lots of good and difficult discussions at the Distribution Committee. So many requests from the community.

Jamie Hayes came into the Foundation in the first week of March as newly employed Executive Director. We all welcomed her and knew she brought lots of expertise with her to promote the Foundation and to start the process of digitizing the operational side. We have a Marketing Working group that makes great recommendations to the board. Jamie is a valuable voice on this committee for spreading the info about the Foundation.

The Foundation sponsored the Rotary Gala for the first time, which was a successful event night, and both Rotary Clubs, Mission Morning and North Fraser came away with \$20,000.00 for each club to support many needs in the City of Mission.

Christine, Julia, Jamie, and I decorated a vehicle for the Mission Candlelight Parade and participated. Fun evening. Not too cold.

Over the year we attended and supported events around Mission - Rotary golf tournament, Mayor's luncheon, Candlelight Parade, School events, Folk Festival thank you breakfast, Rotary Gala, Investment appreciation night, Bollywood Gala, Vaisakhi event at UFV to name a few. We are a busy group.



Shelley Carter

Board Chair
Mission Community Foundation

What can you say about the community members that sit on our committees? There really are no strong appreciative words to convey how grateful we all are for your dedication and passion to this Foundation. You make this job so much fun. You are all so knowledgeable about community history and your true advocacy. We can lean on you to learn from and have great discussions with the easy to difficult decisions that come at the committee level to make good recommendations to the Board of Directors.

Finally, THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU, to the Benefactors. There are no words worthy enough to convey our sincere gratitude for gifting your funds to make money to benefit the young students to the elderly residents and this beautiful city we call home. We want to say a grateful thank you to the Finance Department at the Mission Public School Board for working with us on the scholarship process.

Please keep visiting our website. Information changes often. We are very excited about the updates and changes we are making at the Foundation.

Lastly, I want to give a sincere thank you to the MCF Directors and our ED who make my job easy.

From a good place, a good mind and a good heart, I thank you from the bottom of my heart to everyone that supports this great Foundation.

On behalf of the present Board of Directors

on behalf of the current Board of Directors:

Stephen Evans – MRCC Rep – Board Vice Chair

Christine Armstrong - Treasurer

Linda Hamel – MPSD Rep – Secretary

Katrina Ostrikoff - Member at Large

Carol Hamilton – City of Mission Councilor

Julia Renkema – Board member

Gordon Dainard – Board member

Lisa Nissanov/Shawn Boulter – MCSS reps
shared role - Board members

2024 BOARD MEMBERS



Shelley Carter
Board Chair
FVRD rep



Lucas McKinnon
Vice Chair
Effective March 2024



Bernadine Babuik
Vice Chair
Until March 2024



Michael Roux
Treasurer



Christine Lobb
Secretary



Carol Hamilton
City of Mission Rep



Stephen Evans
MRCC Rep



Linda Hamel
Member at Large
MPSD Rep



Shawn Boulter
MCSS Liaison



Lisa Nissanov
MCSS Liaison



Julia Renkema
Member at Large



Jamie Hayes
Executive Director
Effective March 2024



Gurdeep Toor
Member at Large
Until June 2024



Erin Osterberg
Board Member
Until Feb 2024



**Mission Community
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MCF COMMITTEES

Each of our Committees has at least one Board member who agrees to serve as chair and represent it at the Board meetings.

Bursary & Scholarship

Lucas McKinnon - Chair

Shelley Carter and Linda Hamel

Development (Governance & Policy)

Shelley Carter - Chair

Sherry Cannon, Louise Lacerte, Rosemary Nemanishen,
and Christine Lobb

Distribution

Shelley Carter – Chair

Brian Antonson, Graham Black, Candie Thorne, Gloria Tyler and Michael Roux

Investment

Shelley Carter – Chair

Michael Roux, Gurdeep Toor, Don Calnek and Stephen Evans

RBC Group – Lonny Andrews, Nik Venema, Elias Matties, Mark Siemens

Marketing and Logo

Shelley Carter – Chair

Michael Roux and Christine Lobb

SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS

We are thrilled to have distributed \$152,000 in scholarships to Mission grade 12 graduates and mature students in 2024. This would not be possible without the generous support from our scholarship benefactors.

Adair Family Fund

Albert Mc Mahon Memorial Fund

Barbara Heptonstall Bursary

Carlo J Billinger Fund

Carly Rae Jepsen Fund

Clemo Scholarship Fund

Clint Lobb Fund

Debbie Mattson Memorial Fund

Dirk Boswyk Memorial Fund

Ellis Family Fund

Elsie Dale Bursary

EO Stevens Fund

Fenmo Boswyk Fund

Finch Memorial Fund

George Cox Heptonstall

Hannah Dodd Memorial Scholarship

Harris Family Fund

Hollister Trinity Western University Fund

Jack & Mary Brown Fund

Jack Cannon Memorial Fund

Jack Heptonstall Fund

James Slusark Memorial Fund

John & BJ Pearson Fund

Kelly Sandoval Memorial Fund

Leduc Bursary Fund

Margaret Erskine Bursary

Marilyn McClinton Memorial Fund

Mission Chamber of Commerce Business Fund

Mission Granite Club Fund

Robson Fund

Rock Family Fund

Ross Allan Memorial Fund

Rotary Midday Fund

Rotary Sunrise Fund

Vic & Hilda Hollister Fund

Vivian E. Crist Scholarship

Wayne Douglas MacLean Memorial Scholarship

William and Edith Heptonstall Bursary

George Cox Heptonstall



GW COOKE AWARDS

George Willoughby Cooke was a long-time friend of Bill and Shirley Walker. During his lengthy friendship with Bill and Shirley Walker, Mr. Cooke extended many kindnesses to them. As an honour to his name and in remembrance of his friendship and generosity, Mr. and Mrs. Walker established this fund to share with others the type of kindness George Willoughby Cooke shared with them.

The George Willoughby Cooke Fund was established in 1992 by Bill and Shirley Walker of Mission and is administered by Mission Community Foundation. Its purpose is to recognize students in Grades 7, 8 and 9 for achievement in Math and Science. Recognition medallions and certificates are provided to the recipients at our annual scholarship event.

Although this fund is intended to honour individual achievement, friendship and kindness are also significant factors when choosing award recipients.

George W. Cooke



36 Mission Students received GW Cooke Awards in 2024



GRANTING FUNDS

The Mission Community Foundation holds 2 Grant Cycles each year. In 2024, we were able to award **\$239,532** in grants to the Mission Community. These grants would not be possible without the generosity of our many benefactors. In addition, we also distribute grants as directed by Designated Funds, which are dedicated for a certain organization or group annually.

Animal Welfare Fund

Beaton Patience Drug/Alcohol Abuse Prevention Fund

Caring Fund

Cliff Marjorie Rock Family Fund

Community Fund

Derrough Fund

Friends of the Library Fund

Glen Kask Theatrical Legacy Fund

GW Cooke Fund

Heptonstall Family Fund

Hospice Endowment Fund

James Muir Family Fund

James Muir Family Hospice Fund

James Patty Special Education Fund

Lifetime Learning Fund

Marilyn Boswyk Memorial Fund

McPherson Family Fund

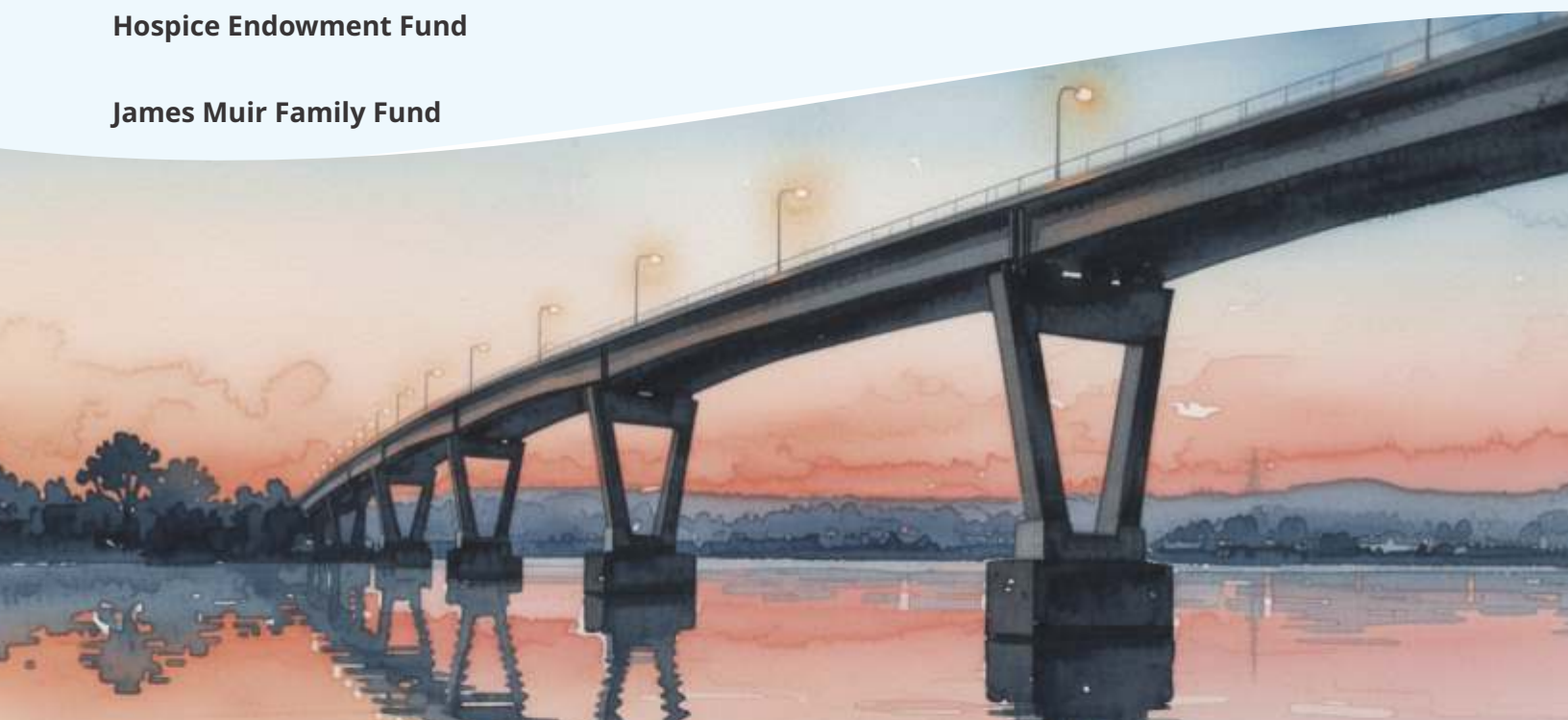
Mission Hospice Society Hollister Fund

Public Art Endowment Fund

Reel on the River Fund

Rock Family - Food Programs

Youth Centre Fund



MISSION & REGION PROSPERITY FUND 2024

Thanks to Community Foundations Canada we were proud to distribute a total of \$275,000 through one-time grants to the Mission Community. The fund supports Community Service Organizations, including non-profit organizations, Indigenous Governing Bodies and Registered Charities located in Canada.

The following Mission organizations received grants from this fund:

**Cherub's Inn
LINC Society**

**Mission & District Senior Citizen Housing Association
Mission Community Services Society**





Thank you.

October 30, 2025

It is a privilege and pleasure to work with the Mission Community Foundation to help guide prudent investment decision making. Our multi-decade process at Siemens and Matties Consulting Group of RBC Dominion Securities is rooted in downside risk management, careful growth and compliance with robust governance practices to ensure accountability.

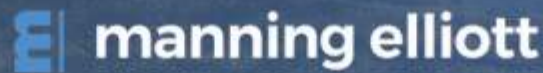
We welcome dialogue to illustrate why you, as donors, can feel confident that your important, community-building gifts are being stewarded by proven practices to grow carefully and consistently while standing the test of time. Thank you for investing with us in the good work being done every day by your Community Foundation here in Mission.

With long term growth, short term capital preservation and sustainable, perpetual distributions in mind, we are pleased to report inception net returns greater of 6.67% from a balanced, globally diversified, multi-manager, multi-style allocation of equities, fixed income and cash. Beginning this year, the endowment pool has also made allocations to alternative investments, which we expect to bolster longer term risk-adjusted returns for the benefit of the Mission community.



We achieve our goals by surrounding ourselves with the people who can help make it happen. *Thank you, Mission Community Foundation and donors, for your trust in our process.*

Mark Siemens *Elise Matties* *[Signature]* *Marianne Lewis* *[Signature]* *[Signature]*



At Manning Elliott LLP,
we are proud to serve
as the trusted audit
and tax advisors to
**Mission Community
Foundation.**

Each year, our team provides independent financial audit services that help ensure the Foundation's financial statements are presented fairly and in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations. We also assist with the preparation of the Foundation's annual charity return and related filings, including the T3010 – Registered Charity Information Return. Our work supports the Foundation's compliance with Canada Revenue Agency requirements, helping maintain its status as a registered charity.

Beyond the numbers, our role is to provide clarity and confidence to the Foundation's leadership, Board, and stakeholders. We work closely with the Executive Director and the finance team to ensure timely delivery of audit reports, management letters, and recommendations for internal control improvements. Our team, led by Brandon Kelley and Ravneet Sandhu, brings deep experience in the charitable sector and a collaborative approach to every engagement.

Established in 1952, Manning Elliott LLP is a leading independent accounting and advisory firm with offices across the Lower Mainland. We provide exceptional professional services with a focus on client success. Our over 300 professionals work in partnership with each of our clients to deliver customized services and solutions aimed to meet our clients' goals. We are proud to support Mission Community Foundation in its efforts to enrich the lives of people in the Mission area through community grants and endowment stewardship.



Hardeep Buttar, CPA, CGA – HB Consulting

Hardeep Buttar is the founder of HB Consulting and a Chartered Professional Accountant with over 15 years of experience in nonprofit finance. She works alongside charities and community organizations to strengthen their financial systems and provide clear, transparent reporting.



For Mission Community Foundation, Hardeep provides bookkeeping, prepares monthly and annual financial reports, and supports the annual audit process. Her work ensures the Foundation has the financial clarity it needs to continue building a lasting legacy of giving in the Mission community.



The following organizations were supported by Mission Community Foundation in 2024.

Grant Recipients 2024



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**Mission Community
Foundation**

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www.missioncommunityfoundation.org