



ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT

2024



Growing Together, Giving Back

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About the Squamish Community Foundation

Established in 2003, the Squamish Community Foundation (SCF) is an independent, charitable organization dedicated to enriching the quality of life for community members in Squamish. We facilitate philanthropy by partnering with donors and connecting them with community causes they value. As a Community Foundation, our focus is on building permanent endowments that address long-term community challenges as well as immediate needs. From the income earned on over \$1 million in endowment funds, we invest grants in people, groups, and community impact. With projects like Vital Signs we are also working to build community knowledge, engagement, and leadership.



A Message from our Board Chair

2024 has been our busiest year yet! The SCF had a highly productive year as we continued to build our impact in the community.

This year we administered over \$372,408 in grants to community projects in Squamish, between our Annual Grants, the Provincial Government's Community Prosperity Fund, District Of Squamish Community Enhancement Grants, and Neighbourhood Small Grants. \$30,000 in additional Community Services Recovery Funds topped-off our granting year. Thank you to our donors, grants committee and volunteers for your support, and to the dedicated non-profits in our community.

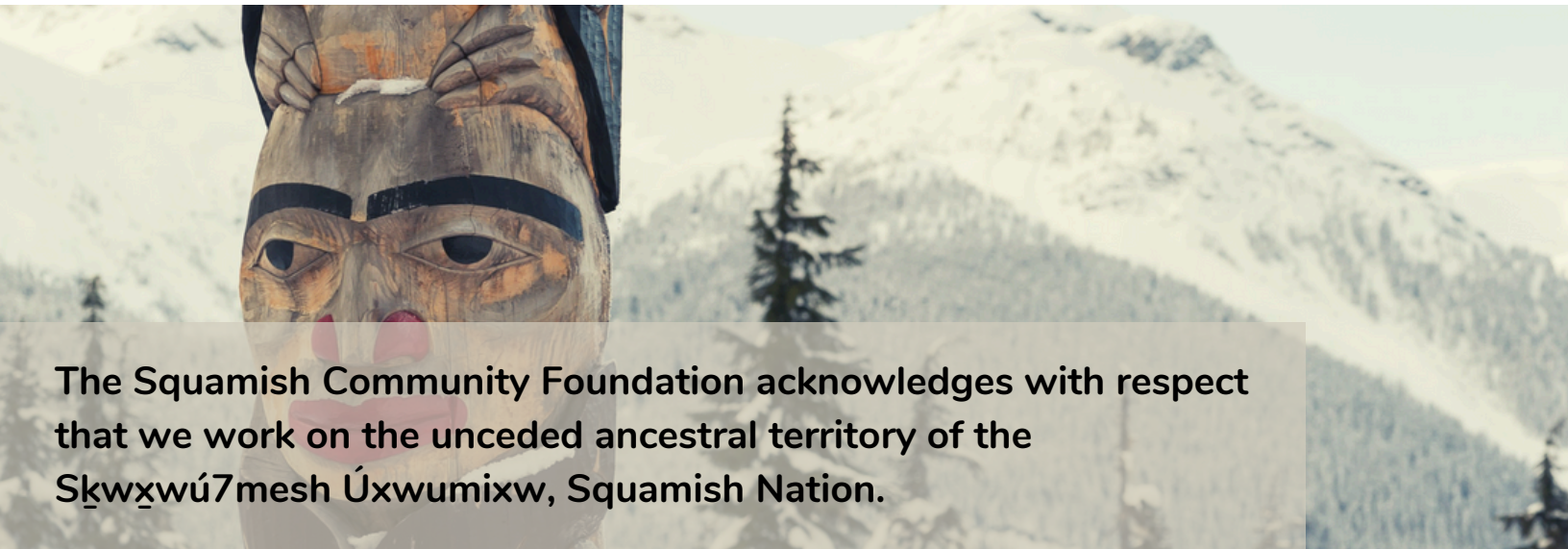
In June we screened the film version of "Uncharitable" at the Brackendale Art Gallery in partnership with PearlSpace and the Hospice Society. This was a great evening and generated lots of discussion. Shortly after, SCF released the 2023 Living Wage Report. This was the first Squamish report and was well received by the community. We released the 2024 Living Wage Report in November.

In July, we unveiled our 2024-2029 Strategic Plan. The strategic priorities guiding our work are: Grow our Brand, Grow our Funds and Grow our Impact. These priorities will help us in our mission of enhancing the well-being of our community by inspiring giving for sustained impact.

I am so proud of the work we have done this year as a Foundation and am excited for what the next year holds as we continue to build our profile and bring in donations to support the great work happening in Squamish.

Suzie Soman

Board Chair, Squamish Community Foundation



The Squamish Community Foundation acknowledges with respect that we work on the unceded ancestral territory of the Sk̓wx̓wú7mesh Úxwumixw, Squamish Nation.



Setting Our Strategic Direction

2024-2029 Strategic Plan

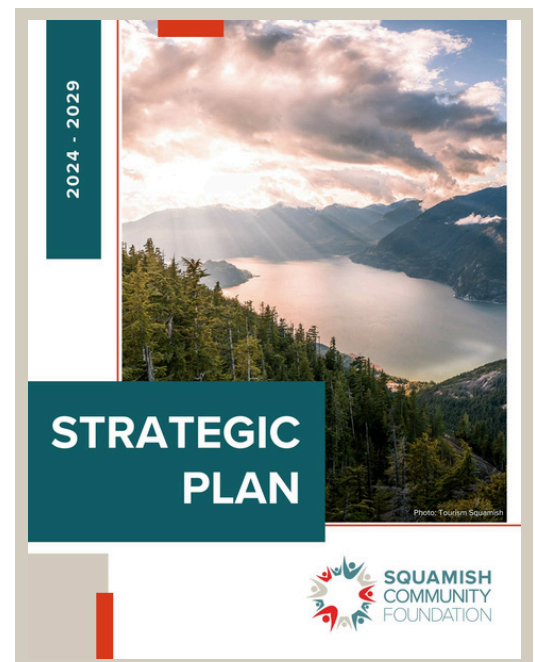
This July, the SCF was proud to unveil our new 5-year Strategic Plan - setting the direction for the coming years.

We unveiled our new 5-year Strategic Plan in July 2024. The new plan connects us to our mission and crystalizes our vision: a thriving, diverse and inclusive community empowered by a legacy of giving. The Strategic Plan also sets the direction for our continued work over the next several years.

The 2024-2029 Strategic Plan presents our priorities:

1. Grow Our Brand: Ignite and amplify community passion and commitment for our cause
2. Grow Our Funds: Develop the funds and resources needed to increase and sustain our impact
3. Grow Our Impact: Effectively deliver on our mission and make a distinctive impact

As you read our Strategic Plan we invite you to reflect upon what makes Squamish strong and how you, as a member of the community, can contribute to its vitality and sustainability alongside us.



VIEW & DOWNLOAD THE PLAN



www.squamishfoundation.com/about-us

The Squamish Community Foundation Board of Directors and Staff worked with Meg Reynolds, a long time Squamish resident and facilitator, on the 2024-2029 Strategic Plan. We are grateful for her collaboration and the energy she gave to help create this guiding document.



2023 and 2024 Squamish Living Wage Reports

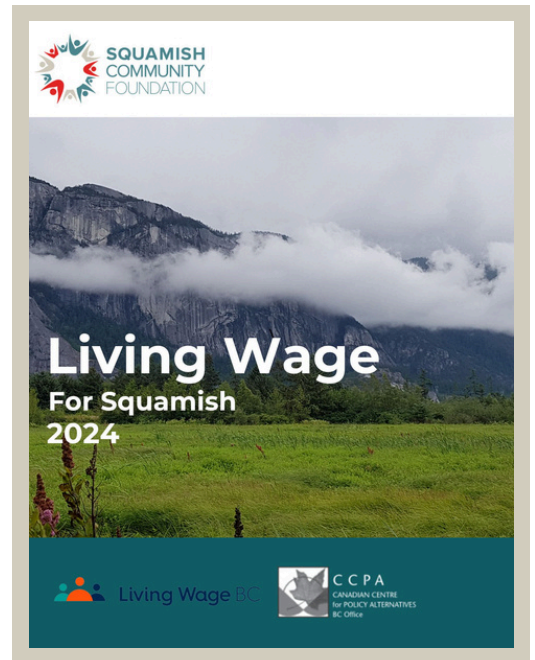
The Squamish Community Foundation released our first ever Squamish Living Wage Report - a significant achievement.

The Squamish Community Foundation first partnered with the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives – BC Office and Living Wage BC to calculate the living wage for Squamish for 2023 in July 2024. We subsequently released the updated 2024 Squamish Living Wage Report in November. The SCF will continue to release the Living Wage Report annually in November.

The living wage is the hourly amount that each of two working parents with two young children must earn to meet basic expenses. In this calculation, basic expenses include rent, childcare, food, and transportation after government taxes, credits, deductions, and subsidies are taken into account; the living wage does not include debt repayment or savings.

As costs continue to rise, particularly for housing and food, Squamish's living wage has been calculated at \$26.76 per hour for 2024; a 6.5% increase from the living wage of \$25.13 for 2023.

To learn more about the living wage in Squamish, download our report.



VIEW & DOWNLOAD THE REPORT



www.squamishfoundation.com/community/#livingwage

The Squamish Community Foundation worked in partnership with CCPA-BC Office and Living Wage BC to produce the 2023 and 2024 Squamish Living Wage Reports. Thank you to Carol, our Board Secretary, the Living Wage Committee, CCPA-BC and Living Wage BC for all their efforts,



2024

Annual Grants

Over \$31,600 in Endowment Fund distributions were shared with 15 organizations in 2024, including two scholarships totalling \$2,500 to students attending post-secondary institutions.

Funded by the income earned from our endowment funds, the Squamish Community Foundation awards Annual Grants to eligible organizations focused on causes that improve the lives and wellbeing of Squamish residents, including: Health and Social Development, Recreation and Sports Arts, Culture and Heritage, Children, Youth and Families, Environment, Music Education and Community Enhancement.

2024 Grant Recipients

Arthritis Society BC and Yukon Division \$1,470
BC Cancer Foundation \$1,470
International Heritage Cultural Centre Society \$1,000.00
OurSquamish Placemaking Society \$1,500.00
PearlSpace Support Services Society \$3,300.00
Sea to Sky BC SPCA \$2,000.00
Sea to Sky Invasive Species Council \$1,900.00
Snichim Foundation (Peernet Association of BC) \$2,500.00
Squamish Food Bank Society \$1,500.00
Squamish Helping Hands Society \$3,000.00
Squamish Hospital Foundation \$1,960
Squamish Public Library \$1,435.00
Squamish Volunteer Centre Society \$2,000.00
Tantalus Wellspring Society \$2,000.00
Whistler Adaptive Sports Program Society \$2,000.00

“[What worked well.] Being able to choose our own therapist who specialized in our concerns. The concerns are a work in progress, but this program was so helpful in accessing help from an amazing local therapist. Thank you so much, this program is an amazing asset to the community. Without it we could not have afforded the specific help we needed.”
-Tantalus Wellspring Society Program Participant



Left: Invasive Species Council; Centre: Robert W. McIntosh Memorial Scholarship Recipient; Right: Mosaic Mountain Heritage Festival.

2024

Neighbourhood Small Grants



This year, \$17,195 in grant funding was shared with individuals interested in building community through the immensely popular Neighbourhood Small Grants program.

The Neighbourhood Small Grants (NSG) program is based on a simple, but powerful idea - that everyone is a valuable member of the community and that we all have something to share. Funded by the Vancouver Foundation and the District of Squamish since 2017, these grants have supported almost 200 Squamish neighbourhood projects that nurture our community.

In 2024, we saw bike crawls, colouring and bookmark making at Pearl Space, a community potluck, a Halloween Trail, a 4-H Community Club Meet and Greet, a Friends Weekend, numerous block parties, and more. Also notable, our coordinator Doug Hackett retired and we welcomed Emilija Dufresne in his place.

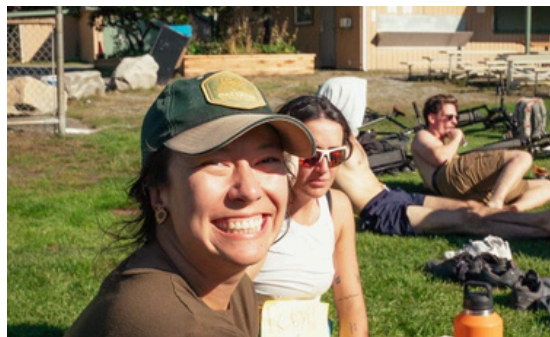
What Our Grantees Are Saying...

"I think this event created a way for people to connect and enjoy each other's company in a way that was playful and fun in a novel way. I think it is super positive for people to connect in different ways to create a more diverse community and experience!"
- Holly, Bike Crawl and Pizza Party

"It felt amazing to see the relationships form over the weekend with all the new faces that have come together to interact with each other in a very open, fun, non-judgemental way. I would love to keep doing this year after year, its very rewarding!"
- Josh, Friends Weekend

"I believe this event helped foster a stronger sense of community within the neighbourhood by simply giving people a venue and the space to meet each other and talk."
- Lauren, Emerald Estates Block Party

"It was nice to provide a venue that allowed people who are new to the neighbourhood to connect with others."
- Sarah, Plateau Drive Neighbourhood Social



Left: Squamish 4H Meet and Greet; Centre: Friends Weekend 2024; Right: Colouring and Bookmark Making Event at Pearl Space

Enhance the NSG Program

The NSG program has been highly successful. To continue to enhance the NSG program funding levels for years to come the SCF Established the Neighbourhood Small Grants Fund.

To donate: visit SCF's Canada Helps donations page and select 'Neighbourhood Small Grants Fund' [www.bit.ly/CanadaHelpsNSG].

2024

Community Enhancement Grants

This year we administered \$97,953 in Community Enhancement Grants to 25 local organizations providing important services and activities to some of our most vulnerable community members.

The SCF has administered the Community Enhancement Grants (CEGs) for the District of Squamish since 2021. CEGs are geared towards projects that seek to enhance the community of Squamish through programming that aligns with the overarching goals of the District of Squamish’s Official Community Plan.

2024 Grant Recipients

Evans Lake Forest Education Society \$2,500
 Howe Sound Curling Club \$3,792
 PearlSpace Supportive Services Society \$7,000
 SD 48 – Howe Sound Secondary Grad Ceremony \$2,085
 SD 48 – Valleycliffe Elementary School Outdoor Shelter \$5,000
 Sea to Sky Hospice Society \$5,000
 Squamish Climate Action Network \$5,000
 Squamish Community Christmas Care \$5,000
 Squamish Cricket Club \$4,000
 Squamish Field Hockey Club \$2,000
 Squamish Food Bank \$10,000
 Squamish General Hospital Auxiliary Society \$2,500

Squamish Helping Hands Society \$2,700
 Squamish Dragon Boat Association \$1,000
 Squamish Minor Hockey Association \$5,000
 Squamish Nature Learners \$5,000
 Squamish Senior Living Society \$2,970
 Squamish Volunteer Centre Society \$3,600
 Squamish Youth Triathlon \$1,806
 SSCS Better at Home Cross Cultural Conversations \$3,000
 SSCS Indigenous Perspectives in Childcare Programming \$4,000
 SSCS Healthy Pregnancy Outreach Program \$5,000
 Starfish Environmental Society \$2,000
 Tantalus Wellspring Society \$3,000
 Whistler Adaptive Sports Program Society \$5,000

“This year, a new program participant who is in his late forties, not only served meals, but helped to clear plates and serve dessert. His mother reported to staff that he came home so excited because he had done something new, something he had never done before, and he absolutely loved the experience because he felt he was helping others.” Catherine, Life Skills & Community Access Worker, SCSS Better At Home Program



Left: Squamish CAN Fermenting Workshop; Centre: Westwinds Afternoon Tea; Right: Squamish River Watershed Society at Judd Beach.



2024

Community Prosperity Fund

Funding of \$195,000 was distributed to 11 organizations advancing poverty reduction and social inclusion in 2024.

The Vancouver Foundation partnered with the Government of B.C., Community Foundations of Canada and over 50 local community foundations to deliver the Community Prosperity Fund — a \$25 million investment from the Government of B.C. that advances poverty reduction and social inclusion. The Community Prosperity Fund will provide up to three years of funding for the ongoing work of organizations in Squamish, with funding decisions made by the Squamish Community Foundation.

Grant Recipients:

Squamish Helping Hands Society: \$29,000.00
Indigenous Women Outdoors Society: \$25,000.00
Squamish Volunteer Centre Society: \$28,000.00
PearlSpace Support Services Society: \$18,000.00
Sea to Sky Hospice Society: \$20,000.00
Squamish Off Road Cycling Association (SORCA): \$15,000.00
Squamish Climate Action Network Society (CAN): \$25,000.00
Tantalus Wellspring Society: \$15,000.00
Squamish Men's Shed Society: \$10,000.00
Squamish 55+ Community Society: \$5,000.00
Squamish Sikh Society: \$5,000.00



COMMUNITY
PROSPERITY
FUND





Community Events

Growing SCF Impact and Funds

The Squamish Community Foundation hosted two community events this year, in alignment with our strategic priorities to Grow our Brand and Grow our Funds.

“Uncharitable” Film Screening

On June 19th, we screened the film version of “Uncharitable” at the Brackendale Art Gallery in partnership with PearlSpace and the Hospice Society. The movie is based on the 2008 book by Dan Pallotta about how restraints on giving undermine the impact of non-profits. Directed by Stephen Gyllenhaal, the documentary introduced a radical new way of giving.

The evening had a great turnout - we sold 69 tickets - and the documentary was well received. We also had an engaging Panel discussion with representatives from local charities. We were so engaged in the discussion we forgot to take photos!



‘Squamish Gives 5%’ Event

On Dec 7th, 2024 we held our first Squamish Gives 5% Holiday Giving Campaign in partnership with several local businesses - TEAG + GRAY, Emily’s Hair Designs, Pearl’s Value & Vintage and Base Technology Ltd. These partners agreed to donate 5% or more of gross sales on December 7th to the Foundation’s Smart and Caring Community Fund.

The event was a lot of fun and connected us to local businesses. Our enthusiastic business partners helped us Grow our Brand and Grow our Funds. Thank you! Next year, we look forward to applying our learnings and connecting with more local partners.





HOW TO

Create a Lasting Impact in Squamish

When you donate to us, your money stays in your community and creates a lasting legacy.

Whether you intend to donate in honour of a loved one or support a community initiative you're personally passionate about, let us help you create a personalized charitable giving plan that represents your vision and values. Donors can choose to contribute to one of our established funds, or set up an endowment fund specific to your personal or business goals. Below is a summary of the various donation options.

ENDOWMENT FUND SPOTLIGHT: 100 WOMEN WHO CARE FUND

The 100 Women Who Care Fund was established in January 2024, marking a significant milestone for 100 Women Who Care Squamish. The nature of the fund guarantees a timeless impact, ensuring ongoing support for community causes and the opportunity for local women donors to create a lasting legacy.

"SCF is very excited to partner with 100 Women Who Care as they launch their Endowment Fund here in Squamish. They reflect our shared commitment to the well-being of our community and also play an important role in supporting local organizations" – Karen Clarke, Executive Director of Squamish Community Foundation

Make a Personal Donation



One-time, monthly, or annually

OR



Bequest in my will

OR



On behalf of a loved one

With funds directed towards...



SCF's General Fund 'Smart and Caring'

OR



A Specific Cause

OR



SCF Operating Fund

and payment made via...

E-transfer, Canada Helps, Cash or Cheque

OR

Gifts of marketable securities or real-estate

Visit www.squamishfoundation.com/donate for details.

Establish an Endowment Fund

Suited to individuals/couples/families, organizations, or businesses looking to contribute \$10,000 or more.

Endowment funds are held in perpetuity with earnings contributed annually to community initiatives.



Directed to a specific field of interest, charitable organization, or general needs in the community.

OR



For my charitable organization specifically

Provide a permanent source of funding for your registered charity. Minimum donation is 20K.

Contact Karen Clarke, Executive Director
kclarke@squamishfoundation.com | 604-848-8683

We would like to thank our generous donors, big and small, without whom our community impact would not be possible.

Thank you to our dedicated Board of Directors, volunteers and committee members for your ongoing guidance and expertise.

And finally, thank you to the passionate community organizations and individuals who work so hard every day to improve the quality of life for all residents in Squamish.



Contact

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 www.squamishfoundation.com

 @SquamishCommunityFoundation

Registered Charity Number: 882548902RR0001

We're part of:



**COMMUNITY
FOUNDATIONS
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