

2025

# ANNUAL REPORT

*150 years in your community*



YMCA-YWCA of Vancouver Island

# A MESSAGE FROM THE Chair & CEO



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Gent'.

**Derek Gent**  
Chief Executive Officer



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Scott McKay'.

**Scott McKay**  
Board Chair

The year 2025 represents the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of your Vancouver Island Y in this region.

Proudly operating as an independent local charity that is both a YMCA, and YWCA (one of only two such organizations in Canada) we continue to evolve to meet the needs of those we serve, while our values are unwavering. Everything we do makes people healthier, and everything we do brings people together to build stronger communities.

Your Island Y is a vibrant and essential institution, where members find belonging and connection, where people find opportunities to realize their potential, and where we all contribute to a better world. Each "Y Story" that we hear represents part of this fabric. Many experiences date back decades or even generations of families, with new examples every day that create an ever deeper sense of our identity and importance here.

2025 set the stage in finding a new location for our Downtown Y. We have since opened at the Bay Centre just a few blocks away, and we bade a tearful yet fond reminiscence to the Broughton Street building which meant so much to so many for so long in this community. A celebration of our history gives us strength, confidence and a deep commitment to ensuring that our future will be even more impactful here. The new space, and particularly the people, represent vibrant and energizing forces where we will still come together and are excited about a Centre of Community enduring in Victoria.

In Child Care, we have gone from 60 spaces to what will soon be over 250 in just a couple of years. Our Centres support early childhood development through a nationally recognized curriculum and safety protocols delivered by dedicated team members here. We continue to advocate for more universal access to child care as part of our agenda for social justice, economic empowerment and gender equity. There are currently over 1000 families on our waiting lists who will likely wait an average of 3 years for a space. There is more work to do here, and across many issues that particularly affect women and gender diverse individuals.

In 2025, Langford saw continued expansion of our membership and services, recently topping 10,000 individuals who belong to the Westhills Y and averaging more than 1200 visits per day. Approximately 70% of the members belong as families, with

a broad range of programs and services for people at all ages and stages of life. The City of Langford completed the purchase of this building in 2025 and we have a very collaborative relationship here to ensure this facility can sustain and adapt as a Centre of Community that supports the population as it grows. We know that we continue to offer best in class programming and facilities while operating the most cost effective model possible.

Camp Thunderbird, located in Sooke and Metchosin, had another wonderful season with more school groups and increased participation levels in summer programs, supported by our many donors who help us through their generous contributions. The Camp experience is invaluable for young people, especially in today's world of technology and youth mental health issues.

Camp provides an opportunity for them to spend time in nature, connect with others and develop new skills and confidence. It is the one of the best possible investments that can be made in our future.

We were particularly pleased to see our municipal property tax exemptions continued at Camp to help us protect these lands and activities. Valuing our relationships with local First Nations and having more participation from Indigenous organizations and Knowledge Holders at Camp is an important priority for us.

Our staff and volunteers at Y Young Moms, Pandora Youth Apartments and Y Mind offer support and a caring environment in which the residents and participants are able to face their challenges and develop the resiliency and skills necessary to thrive.

While reflecting upon the recent passing of longtime Langford City Councillor Lillian Szpak, of something she said around the time of opening our Westhills Y. She made a comment that Langford felt like a stronger and more complete community because we now have a Y.

The context for our work is complex, the urgency and need for our services is unabated, and the passion of our people is unsurpassed. Our mission, vision and values are crystal clear. We want to thank our tireless volunteers, including the dedicated Board of Directors with whom we serve, the staff teams delivering our work, and the many donors who make our work possible.

3 YEAR

# Strategic Framework



## VISION

Healthy people, building strong communities

## MISSION

Building strong communities on Vancouver Island by improving the health, fitness and well-being of individuals and families. We nurture the potential of youth, promote equality and provide opportunities for giving back.

## VALUES

Caring. Responsibility. Respect. Honesty. Inclusiveness.

### GOAL 1

**An Employer and Service Provider of Choice**

### SP 1

Attract, develop, and retain our team of staff and volunteers to deliver our programs and services.

### SP 2

Develop a bold vision for the Y's downtown presence.

### GOAL 2

**Enhanced Programs and Facilities**

### SP 3

Strategically nurture existing and new relationships for collaborative opportunities.

### SP 4

Continually seek opportunities to offer and enhance programs and services that meet evolving community needs.

### GOAL 3

**A Financially Thriving Charity**

### SP 5

Pursue top-tier fundraising and communication capacity that deepens stakeholder engagement and builds our brand and reputation.

### SP 6

Develop our multi-year sustainable business model that includes cost-benefit analysis and risk assessment on new and existing initiatives.

SP – Strategic Priority  
Updated by the Board of Directors October 2025

2025

# Impact Snapshots

The Vancouver Island Y operates health, fitness & aquatics facilities, child care centres, a summer camp and outdoor centre, housing initiatives for young mothers and youth at risk, and a variety of programs (broadly categorized) under community health, youth learning and leadership or outdoor activities.

**261** Dedicated Y Employees!

**58** Enthusiastic Y Volunteers were recognized during National Volunteer Week!



**111** youth completed Y Mind programs, surpassing both the registration target of 100 participants.



This included a Mind Medicine, Indigenous partnership in Campbell River.

**9,270** Visits by children to the Westhills Y Playcare Centre while their parent had a workout!

**61,218** Average number of visits to the Vancouver Island Y EVERY MONTH IN 2025!



**14,378** Individuals improved their health and well-being in 2025 with Y Memberships!

**54** Families on average received financially assisted Y Memberships EVERY MONTH from funds raised through donor generosity!

**25** fitness volunteers at the Downtown Y offered over 60 drop-in classes a week!

**1,896** members participated in Group Swim Lessons, and 59 members in Private Swim Lessons at the Westhills Y!

**2,900** gallons of water every minute, **4.17 million** gallons every day are filtered through the Activated Filter Media system at the Westhills Y Aquatics Centre! Filters down to 1 micron!



**75** The Y Young families received support and education attending **145** group sessions at the Young Moms Program.



**1,747** One on One counselling sessions and **930** Phone Counselling Sessions were provided for Y Young Moms Residents.

**14** Young mothers and their **18** children at risk of homelessness were safely housed with counselling and parenting support at the Y Young Moms Program.

**86%** of Y Young Moms Residents entered the program without their high school diploma or equivalency.

**12** Residents of our Y Pandora Youth Apartments were supported with housing, health management & educational supports through **501** one-on-one counselling sessions.



**13.6 months** is the average stay of Y Pandora Youth residents.

**83%** of Pandora Youth Residents reported historical trauma (10 of 12). **9** of these youth received counselling supports in the community.

**75%** of Pandora Youth Residents (9 of 12) both worked and attended school for parts of 2025.

**72** Families were provided with **\$10/day Child Care** at our Crosstown and Westhills centres. \$10/Day child care rates saved these families a combined **\$456,192**.

**97** New children/families were welcomed into **TWO** new child care programs in partnership with School District 62.



**1,057** Children and youth attended **Camp Thunderbird** summer programs.



**2,950** Outdoor Education Campers experienced spring and fall programs at **Camp Thunderbird**.

Renovations were undertaken to move the camp office into the main lodge for staff. **A New Changeroom Shelter** was added at camp with an accessible stall and **5** additional private changing stalls.

**346** Committed Donors & Funders contributed almost \$2M in 2025.

**42** Monthly donors contributed toward our programs and services.

For a complete list of donors visit [vancouverislandy.com](http://vancouverislandy.com)

# NURTURING THE POTENTIAL OF YOUTH



**CHILD CARE PROGRAMS** 2025 was a huge year for our Child Care Programs! We re-entered the school age care market and opened 2 new child care programs in partnership with School District 62.

**The Downtown Y Child Care** moved to Burnside Road East in July 2025, opened 12 additional Infant/Toddler spaces in Feb 2025, and welcomed 4 new staff members. The newly built Crosstown site offers a larger interior, and includes floor to ceiling windows, a larger outdoor play space, and a separate quiet time nook. The new location is 2.9 km from the previous location; a 10-minute drive, and easily accessible by transit.

**PEXSISEN Y Child Care** in PEXSISEN Elementary School welcomed 76 new children and their families with 9 new child care providers.

**Hans Helgesen Y Child Care** in Hans Helegesen Elementary School welcomed 21 new children/families with 2 new child care providers. One of these amazing staff was promoted from a frontline to supervisor role.

**The Westhills Y and Crosstown Y Child Care programs continue as \$10 a Day ChildCareBC sites, allowing child care fees to remain capped at \$200 per month.**

## CAMP THUNDERBIRD OUTDOOR EDUCATION PROGRAMS

“.....  
Now that I have recovered from 72 hours straight of grade 7s, I just wanted to reach out and thank you whole heartedly for such an incredible experience. Our kids absolutely LOVED camp, and not only that but we saw them thrive too (so many of them asked to come back right away on Friday). Your leaders were so organized and engaged, we could clearly see how much they are loving the work they are doing, and because of that our kids loved it too.

Fly was an incredible team lead (at 19!! Wow!). As a former YMCA camp staff, it was so wonderful to see all the things that made me fall in love with camp reflected at Thunderbird too! I also want to make a special note about Hawk, every time we saw our kids step out of their comfort zones and try something new, Hawk was the reason. We could not believe how much they got the kids out there trying new things and enjoying being kids!!

Have a wonderful summer! Wish I was at camp with you all!”

Discovery Elementary School

## LEARNING & LEADERSHIP



### CAMP THUNDERBIRD

At **Camp Thunderbird**, we are focused on creating better opportunities to support Indigenous youth and families and are collaborating with Indigenous Youth Counsellors to ensure our camp programs are responsive to community needs. Practitioners are actively seeking land based / nature-based programs for the families they work with.

Because many Indigenous families do not necessarily seek out programs such as Camp Thunderbird's, we reserve a certain number of summer camp spaces to allow additional time for counsellors to connect to these families to encourage and assist them to attend.

A successful program in 2025 saw 12 Indigenous youth from Hulitan Family & Community Services Society attend Camp Thunderbird at a subsidized rate made possible by funds raised through the Y's Annual Campaign. We also held the fourth annual Na'tsa'maht Graduation events for Grade 12 and Grade 8 students from all local school districts.

**Y MIND** groups are for community members who are interested in real-world connections, engaging and learning at their own pace to support their mental wellness. Gathering outside of a digitally saturated world where the noise of it disappears for a couple of hours once a week for seven weeks. Our groups are about purpose — finding meaning and belonging. The question shifts from the chaos of why is this happening, to open curiosity and learning tangible tools and strategies of what I can do, how I will do it in a way that is authentic to me. We learn about our bodies, but this is a chance to learn about how your mind works and how to have a better relationship with it. We are an ecosystem.

“.....  
**A past youth participant comment:** It has had a hugely positive impact. I find myself able to do things I never would have thought possible six months ago. I have slowly become more comfortable with discomfort and find myself seeking out situations where I can grow and be challenged.”

## HEALTH & WELL BEING



### LICENSED CHILD CARE

“Our son has been attending PEXSISEN YMCA-YWCA Child Care since September 2025. While the transition was challenging, the team’s commitment to adapting to his individual needs helped him settle in quickly.

In collaboration with his Early Intervention Program team at the Queen Alexandra Centre for Children’s Health, they have created a supportive environment where he feels safe and encouraged to grow at his own pace. It has been exciting to see the tremendous progress in confidence, learning, and social skills. Much gratitude to the entire team for their dedication and compassion.”

### YOUNG MOMS PROGRAM

“The Young Moms Program has done so much good for me and my baby girl. Before moving into the program, we were bouncing around and barely scraping by. Since moving in and participating in the program, we’ve gotten to see what a healthy supportive home life is like, and how much it can improve both your mental and physical health and well-being. With help from staff, we’ve gotten to achieve goals that once felt impossible. Besides the support, having a safe and affordable home until something more permanent comes along means I can focus on my baby girl and work on my goals before transitioning.”

“Being in the program and getting resources and daycare for my kids, I finally can start seeing a vision of what our life can be.”

## ENGAGEMENT & GIVING BACK



### THE JAWL FAMILY FOUNDATION SUPPORTS BURNSIDE GORGE STUDENTS TO ATTEND CAMP THUNDERBIRD

“The team who works with these youth are just thrilled with the opportunity for them to expand their social networks and step out of their comfort zone. This camp experience really does make an impact on these youth and increases their confidence and resilience. Thank you so much.”

“Thank you for paying for camp t-bird again!! I would say my time there in 2025 was even more extraordinary. I got a cabin with all girls and even made friends that I’m even still connected to. One of the girls even goes to my school!!!”

ZE was initially really nervous to go to camp, but he said that it was a lot of fun and that the camp counsellors made him feel comfortable and welcomed. He also spoke highly of the food there, saying it was delicious and that his favourite part was the paddle boarding! He also really appreciated that the camp counsellor made an effort to acknowledge his birthday, which he was also nervous about and ended up enjoying it.

LV was also initially a bit nervous to go, but said that she made some good friends that she is still in contact with! She also said that it was a lot of fun, more fun than she thought it was going to be, and her favourite part was also the paddle boarding. A big thing for her was feeling comfortable in the cabins and she said that she felt safe and comfortable when she was sleeping in the cabins!

#### Parent feedback:

“This is less of a testimonial and more of an observation, but the camp was well organized and prepared, the counsellors were also great. I had to drive her up a little later in the day because of an appointment, but everything was set and ready for LV to arrive! The camp counsellors made efforts to make her feel welcomed immediately and supported her through walking into the big room full of kids without hesitation, which I think also speaks to the organization and quality of the staff!”

### SPECIAL NOTES FROM DONORS

“The Y’s Young Moms Program has been a safe haven for me for many years. Thank you for the work you do.”

“Camp Thunderbird helped me build teamwork skills, gave me lifelong memories to cherish, and live a carefree life as a kid. I hope this donation helps another kid have the same experience.”

“We know that Camp Thunderbird has been positively changing lives for many years. We have seen firsthand how young campers get exposed to nature and build incredible lifelong friendships and memories. It’s an absolute pleasure to support Camp Thunderbird.”

(Scott and Alison McKay – Board President, CRT Donor)

## TELUS HAMMOCK CORNERS:

One of the kids in a junior girl's cabin had some terrible bug bites, so she and two friends had some chill time in wellness with the after-bite wipes, and then they all hung out on the couches and braided each other's hair before banquet.

A homesick kid who was having a hard time spent most of an afternoon in wellness with the weighted blanket and some of the stuffies enjoying the chill vibes and low lamp light.

I was with a senior boy's orienteering group up by reflections, and they wanted to stop doing orienteering and hang out in the hammocks, so we did. They were so excited they were allowed to do that, and they all shared anecdotes from school and life which was lovely.

One night two senior groups all slept in the hammocks together as an out-trip alternative, which allowed a camper with a twisted ankle to participate.

# TELUS Hammock Corners and Wellness Centre Upgrades

## THANK YOU!

With funding from the Vancouver Island TELUS Community Board, the 2025 Inclusion Support Program at Camp Thunderbird was better able to support mental health, mindfulness, and calmness. This project was an excellent example of how universal design for inclusion can benefit all participants in our programs.

Wellness Centre upgrades and the Hammock Corners served as an oasis in the busy atmosphere of camp and became places where children went to rest, recharge and reset for another day of fun.

985 campers benefitted specifically from this support!

The Hammock Corner part of the project was a tremendous success. Daily life at Camp Thunderbird is busy: campers are up early, spending the days doing outdoor activities and even participating in evening programs before bed. Having these hammock spaces where they can take a break helps regulate them both physically and mentally. Hammocks provide input that is calming for the body, and two locations in quiet parts of the woods at camp gave participants improved ability to regulate their emotions while connecting to nature.

When staff took their groups to the hammock corner, they observed some campers using hammocks individually and some in pairs or groups of three. After an afternoon session reading books in the hammocks, a group of 8 to 10-year-old girls said, "We loved it!" and "It was so relaxing and fun!"

When entire groups of campers spent time at the Hammock Corners, staff reported a lower level of anxiety and overall improvement in group cohesion. In the summer of 2025, we had one of the lowest levels of children needing to depart camp early due to behaviour or homesickness. It is typical for 1-2 participants to go home early each week, and this year we had half of that number. We believe that this was due, in part, to the Wellness Centre upgrades and the two Hammock Corner sites funded by this project. THANK YOU TELUS!



# Dollars & Sense

## Y YOUNG MOMS PROGRAM



YWCA Canada, in partnership with 11 local YWCA's worked together to deliver: Dollars & Sense: Financial Empowerment for Low-Income Women and Gender Diverse People (D&S). This program is designed to strengthen financial literacy and empower women and gender diverse folks with their families living on low to modest incomes.

### Core services include:

- financial education
- one-on-one coaching
- tax filing and access to benefits
- improved access to safe financial products
- savings and asset-building tools
- consumer protection education to prevent fraud and financial abuse.

These supports are integrated into existing YWCA programs such as employment training, housing services and newcomer supports.



I feel more comfortable and confident about my future in Canada as a refugee learning about these resources and benefits for myself and my daughter. I want to go to school for nursing but didn't think I could without money but staff has helped me with finding daycare, learning about the Canada Child Benefit, Affordable Child Care Benefit so I can go to high school here while she is in daycare, helped with referrals for language classes and money available for college. Staff has also helped me start saving for my daughter's school applying to the Canada Learning Bond and opening a RESP. Looking back on the past year coming to Canada at 18 with a newborn I feel like a different person and can see our future.



## THANK YOU DENNIS VARGA

In July 2025, our wonderful volunteer at the Y Young Moms Program, Dennis Varga, celebrated his 90th birthday and was awarded with a Y Legacy Membership!



For over 20 years, without fail, whenever something is broken or needing attention at YMP, Dennis is the guy stepping up to fix it. Whether it is leaking taps or leaking roofs, broken toilets, wasp nests, new paint or mowing the lawn, Dennis arrives to get the job done with a smile and a friendly greeting. He has also provided toys for the kids and never hesitates to help spread the word to others about how important and valuable this program is.

The contributions are not limited only to Dennis, but the whole family is involved! Dennis's wife Janice regularly drives with Dennis all the way from Sidney not even eye surgery could prevent him from coming to check on the program and property! Janice's women's club helps fill Christmas stockings for the moms each year, and their son Mike has also become a next generation handy man, continuing the family legacy.

Volunteers like Dennis Varga and his family are what make our communities strong, and this is how the Y can support as many people as we do. It is no exaggeration to say that more than 200 young families have been able to find a new start for themselves and set their children up for healthy lives and future success with help from Dennis and his family.

From all our Y volunteers, members, staff, the YMP team and the many families whose lives have been changed because of Dennis and his family's efforts, THANK YOU to the Varga family!

**You are an inspiration to us all, and we are forever grateful!**

# Financial Highlights

from Financial Statements  
Audited by MNP LLP



## STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS \$ ('000s) for year-ending December 31

	2025	2024
<b>REVENUE</b>		
Program	7,791.9	7,120.8
Government	4,126.4	3,816.8
Gaming	110.0	110.0
Fundraising	1,961.4	2,479.9
Other	567.6	637.0
Investment	602.4	540.9
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>15,159.7</b>	<b>14,705.4</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Wages & Benefits	6,703.1	6,016.1
Operations	954.9	836.8
Occupancy	3,342.5	3,065.6
Other	1,996.7	1,872.8
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>12,997.2</b>	<b>11,791.3</b>
<b>Deficiency of revenues over expenses from operations</b>	<b>2,162.5</b>	<b>2,914.1</b>
<b>Net Gain (Loss) on Asset(s)</b>	<b>1,941.6</b>	<b>83.7</b>
<b>Excess (Deficiency) of revenues over expenses before Amortization Expense</b>	<b>4,427.43</b>	<b>3,290.5</b>
<b>Excess (Deficiency) of revenues over expenses after Amortization Expense</b>	<b>4,104.1</b>	<b>2,997.8</b>

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION \$ ('000s) for year-ending December 31

	2025	2024
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Current Assets	5,931.8	7,145.1
Capital Assets	2,572.4	2,191.4
Investments	9,653.0	4,441.9
Others	216.8	185.4
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>18,374.0</b>	<b>13,963.8</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
Current Liabilities	2,264.2	1,923.2
Long-Term Liabilities	30.9	65.7
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>2,295.1</b>	<b>1,988.9</b>
<b>*Unrestricted</b>	<b>(749.5)</b>	<b>(1,417.2)</b>
<b>Externally restricted</b>	<b>2,379.2</b>	<b>2,540.7</b>
<b>Internally restricted</b>	<b>14,449.2</b>	<b>10,851.4</b>

\* Specific restrictions on funds received through contributions or from asset sales are listed in the Audited Financial Statements.

# CHAIR'S ROUND TABLE DONORS & MAJOR FUNDERS ALL PROGRAMS

Thank you for your wonderful support and generosity in 2025!

These donors have provided financial leadership with donations of \$1000 or more, helping to ensure the Vancouver Island Y lives its Mission, Vision and Values.

Anonymous -4  
Ames Family Foundation  
Art's Boys Golf Group  
Britannia Royal Canadian Legion #7  
Camp Thunderbird Staff Auction  
Patrick Carr  
The Estate of Joyce Golding Clearihue  
Ruth Currey  
David Foster Foundation  
Dexterra Group Inc.  
Trevor Engh  
Valerie & Ross Gibbs  
Stephen Cushing & Deborah Gill

Evening Optimist Club of Victoria  
Derek Gent  
Cale Grieve  
Calvin Hop Wo  
Marjorie Horan  
Jawl Family Foundation  
Ernie Kuemmel & Susan Pickard  
Peter Lamont  
Louise Langlais  
Maria & Steve Lyne  
Scott & Alison McKay  
Mitchell — Rushing Family Foundation

Connie Morahan  
Anne Mothersill  
Rikki Nevins  
Steve New  
Outdoor Club of Victoria Fund through the Victoria Foundation  
Alexandra Paproski  
Rosalind Penty  
Provincial Employees Community Services Fund  
Mildred (Grace) Seabook — In Honor of Richard Seabrook  
The Estate of Bruce William Slight  
Bill & Barbara Taylor

Andrew Tomilson  
Helen Vokaty  
Robert Wallace  
Y Walkers

**Nicola Benn Endowment Fund:**  
Natasha Benn, Linda Benn

**Dorothy Hamilton Endowment Fund:** Donald Hamilton

**In Honour of Robert Hutchison:**  
Christine Carrigan, Caite Dheere, Robert Gill,

**In Honour of Lydia Kasianchuk:**  
Joan Wenman



## IN MEMORIAM:

The YMCA-YWCA of Vancouver Island appreciates and honours the lifelong dedication and financial support from

Robert Hutchison – Bob – who passed away July 2025 at 94 years.

Bob was a wonderful man, funny, kind and generous and full of knowledge about the Y. He loved Camp Thunderbird, was a lifetime member of the Downtown Y, and a loyal donor.

Bob joined the Y when he was 16 years old and was part of the track team with Archie Mackinnon and Bruce Hummer. He attended the University of Washington for an Arts degree and then law school at UBC when he finished. The Y helped Bob athletically. In 1952, he was a member of the Olympic Track Team in the 100/200 metres as a sprinter.

Bob joined the Board of the Y in 1956-57 and was a key advisor with the YMCA-YWCA amalgamation in 1964. Bob was the President of the YM-YW from 1972-1974 and helped draw up the constitution.

Bob worked for 25 years as a Lawyer, then at 51 years old he became a Judge before retiring 22 years later – more time to enjoy his family time at Shawnigan Lake. And go fishing!

Bob's impact on the Y has benefited thousands of individuals and families over many years.

## SPECIAL GRANTS AND OTHER PROGRAM FUNDING

1000X5 Children's Book Recycling Project Society  
BC Farmer's Market Nutrition Program  
Caffe Fantastico  
Robb Douglas  
Harbourside Rotary  
Island Health

Jawl Foundation through Burnside Gorge Society  
Juan de Fuca Community Land Trust Fund through the Victoria Foundation  
Kamps for Kids Fund through the Victoria Foundation  
Kiwanis Club of Victoria  
Tracy Keenan-Whyte  
Ministry of Tourism, Arts, Culture & Sport – Community Gaming Grants

Mustang Landscape and Design Ltd.  
Peninsula Co-op on behalf of Patti Hunter  
St. Michael's University School  
Social Planning & Research Council of BC (SPARC)  
Sovereign Order of St. John of Jerusalem Knights Hospitaller  
TELUS Community Board  
Thistle & Wren

Together in Stride at Heartlake Farm  
Victoria Cool Aid Society  
Victoria Foundation's Community Grants Program  
YMCA-YWCA of Vancouver Island Endowment Fund through the Victoria Foundation

For a complete list of 2025 Donors and Supporters, please visit [vancouverislandy.com](http://vancouverislandy.com)

We have done our best to include all of our generous Chair's Round Table Donors and Special Funders. We apologize for any errors or omissions. Please contact us if there is an error in your acknowledgement.



**YWCA Canada** is the country's oldest and largest gender equity organization. Since 1873, YWCA Canada has been a national leader in advocating for the rights of women and girls.

A secular, registered charity, we drive systematic change through powerful advocacy, collaboration, and programs that address urgent needs and advance long-term gender equity.

YWCA is Canada's:

- Largest provider of gender-based violence shelters
- Largest provider of employment and counselling programs for women
- Second largest child care operator in Canada

As part of a national and international movement, the YWCA is a turning point in the lives of 25 million women, girls and gender diverse people worldwide. We welcome women and gender diverse people of all faiths, sexual orientations, races, cultural affiliations and creeds.



**YMCA Canada** is dedicated to the growth of all persons in spirit, mind, and body, and to their sense of responsibility to each other and the global community.

While all YMCAs in Canada share this overarching purpose, each local YMCA is driven by their own mission statement to help them address the unique needs of their communities.

The Canadian YMCA Federation is made up of a national office and 37 Member Associations across the country who share a common mandate to build healthy communities through the power of belonging. We've been uniting people behind this cause in one way or another since 1851 when the YMCA was first established in Canada. Today, 35 YMCAs and 2 YMCA-YWCAs in Canada offer programs and services tailored to the needs of their communities.

YMCA Canada is a member of the World YMCA, a federation of YMCAs in more than 120 countries across the globe.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2025 - 2026

### CHAIR

**Scott McKay**

Retail Executive (retired)

### VICE-CHAIR

**Christine Gleed**

Principal, Circle Communications

### TREASURER

**Harold Cull**

Secretary Treasurer, School District 62 (retired)

### DIRECTORS

**Amir Tavakoli**

Electrical Engineer

**Jeff Osgarby**

Banking Executive (retired)

**Tobin Hwang**

Principal, Colliers Project Leaders

**Raven Lacerte**

Executive Director, Moosehide Campaign Society

**Shannon von Kaldenberg**

Non-Profit Executive (retired)

**Andrew Tomilson**

Lawyer, Partner at Cox Taylor

**Derek Gent (ex-officio)**

Chief Executive Officer, YMCA-YWCA Vancouver Island

## GRATEFUL FOR THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF OUR AMAZING VOLUNTEERS!

This year, we celebrate five **Shirley Main Award** recipients for outstanding contributions from a Y Volunteer!

**PAULINE POWELL** has been inspiring participants for the past six years through energetic classes that blend cardio and strength training. Known for creating fun, motivating routines that encourage people to challenge themselves, she brings positivity and enthusiasm to every class.

**MARILYN SHINTO** shares her passion for fitness and community as a group fitness instructor at both the Westhills and Downtown locations. Through her upbeat Low Impact Cardio Dance classes, she creates a welcoming space where participants of all fitness levels can stay active, build confidence, and connect with others while having fun.

**BILLY STREAN** enthusiastically shares his knowledge, experience, and the benefits of joy through his Laughter Yoga practice. His ability to encourage laughter reminds us that "laughter is the best medicine," helping others reduce stress, build friendships, and improve emotional well-being.

**BRADY SHEILDS** Brady's volunteerism extends beyond his role as a Cardio Dance instructor. In addition to leading classes, he creates opportunities for members to connect by organizing monthly themed Cardio Dance Parties, including events such as Pride, Spring Fling, and Retro Rewind. These events bring energy and excitement to the YMCA while encouraging participation, inclusion, and social connection among members.

**LISA KING** Lisa exemplifies outstanding volunteer leadership through both her time and initiative. Alongside volunteering as a TRX instructor, she recently raised \$900 through participant donations to purchase a new stereo system for the Archie McKinnon Studio. By investing in improvements that benefit others, Lisa helps foster a strong sense of connection, pride, and belonging.

**THANK YOU!** To the City of Langford, District of Metchosin, and District of Sooke for working with the Y and providing support through permissive tax exemptions to realize the vision of Healthy People, Building Strong Communities.