

2026 Grant Recipients

LEVEL BIPOC



LEVEL BIPOC Grants support the leadership capacity of BIPOC-led, BIPOC youth-led, or youth-engaging organizations across B.C. The program provides registered charities and non-profits with flexible operating funding of \$150,000 over three years.

In the 2026 grant cycle, Vancouver Foundation is awarding \$6.3 million to 42 organizations. Below, grantees describe their work in their own words.

2 Rivers Remix Society

Lytton | \$150,000.00

2 Rivers Remix Society is a contemporary Indigenous cultural organization that serves First Nations communities across British Columbia. We create Indigenous-led festivals, gatherings, conferences, and programs that celebrate culture, strengthen relationships, and support community wellbeing. Our work connects artists, Elders, youth, knowledge holders, and community members through opportunities for cultural exchange, creativity, and learning. Since 2022, our flagship project, The Movable Feast and Cultural Grease Trail, has partnered with 19 remote Indigenous communities to deliver 32 free all-Indigenous festivals. Using mobile, off-grid event infrastructure, we help bring world-class Indigenous cultural experiences to communities that are often remote, isolated, and underserved.

All Nations Outreach Society

Vancouver | \$150,000.00

The All Nations Outreach Society (ANOS) is an Indigenous-led non-profit requesting funding to expand life-saving overdose prevention and cultural healing services for urban Indigenous people in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside (DTES). Our project addresses this urgent need by significantly increasing Indigenous-led outreach staffing and providing immediate stabilization through meal kits and harm reduction supplies. Simultaneously, we foster long-term recovery by integrating traditional healing through land- and water-based programs and guidance from Elders and Knowledge Keepers. By bridging the gap between off-reserve members and their home communities, ANOS uses cultural reconnection as a life-changing remedy to address intergenerational trauma and promote collective health.

Association of Nigerians and Africans in Okanagan

Kelowna | \$150,000.00

Africans in Okanagan is a Black-led organization dedicated to supporting the wellbeing, belonging, and leadership of African and Black residents throughout the Okanagan. We help newcomers, youth, and families build strong foundations through settlement support, employment and housing assistance, wellness programs, and community connections. Our work also includes anti-racism education, youth leadership development, and partnerships that promote cross-cultural understanding and Indigenous awareness. Through cultural events, language and arts programs, and community celebrations, we foster pride, reduce isolation, and create opportunities for African and Black residents to participate fully in the social, cultural, and economic life of the region.

Baobab Black Seniors Health and Social Care Services Society

Richmond | \$150,000.00

Baobab Black Seniors Health and Social Care Services Society is a Black-led nonprofit that supports Black seniors across British Columbia to age with dignity, connection, and belonging. We work to reduce social isolation and improve access to health and social services through culturally informed navigation, advocacy, and community-based supports. Our programs include wellness gatherings, social connection activities, and intergenerational initiatives that strengthen relationships across ages and experiences. Guided by both youth leaders and an Elders Council, we also contribute research that helps improve cultural safety and access within care systems. Baobab is committed to ensuring Black seniors are visible, valued, and supported in their communities.

BC Community Alliance

Vancouver | \$150,000.00

British Columbia Community Alliance (BCCA) is a Black-led nonprofit working to address systemic racism and structural inequities in British Columbia's education system. Founded in 2019 in response to a racist bomb threat at a Vancouver high school, BCCA advocates for safer, more equitable learning environments for Black and racialized students. BCCA focuses on community-led advocacy, youth and family leadership, and human rights-based approaches to change. We advance policy reform, deliver anti-racism training and curriculum support, directly help students and families, and develop tools such as the Safe School Hub. We collaborate with schools, government, and community partners to lead community-based initiatives that connect education with housing stability and economic opportunity.

British Columbia Black Advocacy Society

Vancouver | \$150,000.00

The British Columbia Black Advocacy Society (BCBAS) works to advance the rights, interests, and well-being of Black individuals across British Columbia. The BCBAS dismantles systemic racial barriers through advocacy, research, and education, while highlighting the histories, achievements, and contributions of Black communities across the province. The BCBAS fosters intercultural understanding, community building, and inclusion by celebrating Black cultures and experiences. The BCBAS regularly provides counselling and legal services to members of the Black Community in B.C. on various issues, including immigration and refugee applications, employment and labour rights, interactions with law enforcement agencies and the criminal justice system, family law, and child custody.

Chalo Independent School Society

Fort Nelson | \$150,000.00

Chalo Independent School Society (CISS) is a non-profit society governed by an all-Indigenous Board of Directors. The organization is in a remote First Nations reserve in Fort Nelson, B.C., and is dedicated to supporting educational and leadership development of Indigenous students and youth. CISS serves students from kindergarten to grade 12, and post-secondary young adults. It seeks to empower Indigenous youth under age 30 to pursue education, training, and leadership pathways that enable them to become future leaders within their communities. Through targeted leadership development, governance training, and post-secondary support, CISS aims to equip Indigenous youth with the skills, knowledge, and confidence required to take on leadership roles and contribute meaningfully to the long-term sustainability and self-determination of their Nation.

The Couch Jams Collective Society

Vancouver | \$150,000.00

Couch Jams is a collective that is dedicated to amplifying and connecting BIPOC artists throughout Vancouver and the lower mainland. We noticed many difficulties and challenges being faced by BIPOC artists and became aware of the lack of opportunities being afforded to many of these artists especially in comparison to their white counterparts. Vancouver has a lot of incredible BIPOC talent and we are taking on the task of putting these folks onto stages and in front of the audiences. We are known for hosting open mic events and artist showcases but we are hoping to expand our offerings this year with even more community centred events such as listening parties and workshops to continue music conversation and help artists build their artistic abilities even further.

Coastal Research, Education, and Advocacy Network Society

Victoria | \$150,000.00

Coastal Research Education and Advocacy Network (CREAN), established in 1989, empowers vulnerable low-income and racialized youth through research, education, and advocacy. Our community-based research informs our services, with the intention of deepening connections and improving the lives of youth, families, and their communities. We work closely with residents and community leaders in British Columbia and Ontario to advocate, both locally and nationally, on behalf of youth to make our province a better place to live. We envision a world where youth with the fewest resources are elevated to achieve their greatest potential. By partnering with individuals, organizations, community leaders, and policy makers, we work together to help vulnerable youth build a brighter future.

Dignidad Migrante Society

Vancouver | \$150,000.00

Dignidad Migrante is a migrant-worker run organization that supports fellow migrant workers to access their rights and build community. Our organization supports migrant workers in isolated and rural communities by directly bringing essential services through our mobile outreach program. We provide one-on-one support to help workers access benefits they are entitled to, including income tax filing, CPP, WSBC, EI, MSP, emergency benefits and reimbursements of medical expenses. We also offer educational workshops, health visits and community-building activities such as BBQs and health fair events to reduce isolation and improve access to care, particularly in rural areas. Alongside direct services, we also advocate to the government for improved access to MSP and open work permits upon arrival to ensure migrant workers can live and work with dignity and security.

Disability Justice Network

New Westminster | \$150,000.00

Disability Justice Network of BC (DJNBC) is a community-driven organization dedicated to building a just and accessible province where disabled people can thrive. As a sister organization to the Disability Justice Network of Ontario, we are grounded in collective care, solidarity, and advocacy, and we work to dismantle systemic barriers while advancing disability justice across British Columbia. Our main focuses are our Medical Racism Project where we are documenting experiences of ableism and racism in the healthcare sector, and building capacity of our Youth Action Council who are responsible for the strategic direction of our organization.

DUDES Club Society

Vancouver | \$150,000.00

DUDES Club Society is an Indigenous-led organization that supports the health, healing, and leadership of Indigenous and racialized men across B.C. Our purpose is to strengthen families and communities by creating culturally grounded spaces where men can gather, build relationships, and take responsibility for their wellbeing and roles in community.

Our primary activities include facilitating peer-led men's groups, cultural and land-based programming, leadership development, and youth mentorship. Through partnerships with communities and organizations across B.C., we support men and emerging leaders to improve mental, physical, emotional, and spiritual wellness while advancing Indigenous-led approaches to violence prevention, healing, and community care. Beginning in 2020, neXup took up the DC model and adapted it to support male-identifying youth, challenging ideals of toxic masculinity and expanding models of healthy masculinity for youth.

Dze L K'ant Friendship Centre Society

Smithers | \$150,000.00

The Dze L K'ant Friendship Centre Society is an organization guided by Indigenous perspectives that provides services and programs for urban Indigenous people in Smithers, Telkwa, Houston, and surrounding communities in northwestern B.C.

We support the development of those we serve by fostering spiritual, emotional, mental and physical well-being. Our diverse range of programs support urban Indigenous people to be self-sufficient and self-reliant. We service children, youth, families, and elders through pregnancy outreach, early years programming, childcare, youth drop-in, afterschool care, family reunification, family and parenting supports, social integration, mental health counselling, addictions and harm reduction, homeless support, women's safety programming, MMIWG family support, elders programming, extensive food security programming, and much more. Our programs and activities are free and always will be. Each year, in both Smithers and Houston, we host inclusive Indigenous Peoples Day events, Reconciliation Week and Community Christmas Dinner.

Environmental Youth Alliance Society

Vancouver | \$150,000.00

Environmental Youth Alliance (EYA) empowers youth from equity-denied communities to become environmental stewards through land-based education and employment training programs that centre on native plant horticulture, ecological restoration, plant medicine, and community leadership. Our programs balance and integrate Indigenous science and knowledge with Western science through teachings by Indigenous staff, Elders, and Knowledge Keepers. All EYA programs are developed and led by youth who identify as Indigenous, Black, and/or People of Colour.

We recognize that youth from equity-denied communities are disproportionately harmed by environmental crises but are often systemically excluded from environmental advocacy and careers. Our programs centre their experiences and wisdom in land stewardship and create spaces where youth can pursue their passions and apply their knowledge to care for the land. Through this, we aim to support a more equitable and inclusive environmental movement that recognizes the intersections of social and environmental justice.

Indian Residential School Survivors Society

West Vancouver | \$150,000.00

The Indian Residential School Survivors Society (IRSSS) is a non-profit organization and registered Canadian charity committed to supporting Survivors and their families on their healing journeys. Since 1994, we have provided culturally sensitive services including counselling, advocacy, and community outreach to help individuals and communities reclaim strength and resilience.

Our mission as a community-driven organization is to support Indian Residential School Survivors and their families to heal through a variety of ways including culturally based practices. We strive to support all who identify as Indigenous and have been directly or indirectly impacted by colonial systems to attain spiritual, emotional, cultural, and physical healing that sustains their wellness and that of future generations. Each service that IRSSS provides responds to the ongoing impacts of colonial violence while fostering pathways to healing and resilience.

Our work is rooted in culturally based values and principles that guide our approach to healing and support.

Indigenous Women Outdoors Society

Squamish | \$150,000.00

Indigenous Women Outdoors (IWO) creates culturally grounded outdoor recreation, leadership, and land-based learning opportunities for Indigenous women and gender-diverse people living on the unceded territories of the Skwxwú7mesh, Lílwat, səliwətał, and xʷməθkʷəy̓əm Nations.

Our primary activities include outdoor recreation, skills training, leadership development, and land- and water-based programming such as skiing, hiking, paddling, running, climbing, and Indigenous foodways. All programs are designed and led by Indigenous women, centering lived experience, cultural knowledge, and community priorities.

By nurturing connection to land, culture, and community, IWO supports healing, confidence-building, and self-determination. When Indigenous women and gender-diverse people are supported to thrive, the benefits extend to families, communities, and the land itself.

Lu'ma Native BCH Housing Society

Vancouver | \$150,000.00

First Funds Society is the charitable wing of Lu'ma Native Housing Society. First Funds raises funding to sustain the following programs: Traditional Elders & Healers program to support people on their holistic healing journey; Aboriginal Youth Mentorship and Housing program (AYMP) to enable youth their transition from government care to adulthood; and Community Voice Mail Program, enabling individuals who are experiencing homelessness to stay connected to jobs, housing opportunities, their family and community. The purposes of First Funds Society are the relief of poverty, the advancement of education, and the provision of amenities for low-income people with Indigenous ancestry and their dependents in B.C.

Maaqutusiis Hahoulthee Stewardship Society

Tofino | \$150,000.00

The Maaqutusiis Hahoulthee Stewardship Society (MHSS) was incorporated by the Ahousaht Ha'wiih (Hereditary Chiefs) to exercise sovereignty and sustainably manage Ahousaht traditional lands and waters. We balance Nuuchah-nulth cultural values and ecological integrity with socio-economic wellbeing of the Ahousaht people. We ensure that all territorial development benefits the community collectively and respects ancestral laws.

Our Guardians monitors the territory, restore salmon habitat, and respond to environmental emergencies. Through the " "Learning from ḥaḥuuli" " Field School, youth learn traditional ecological knowledge and conservation skills from elders and Guardians. We also manage sustainable tourism and lead climate adaptation projects, including kelp reforestation and eelgrass monitoring. Through these activities, MHSS fosters " "lisʔakstaλ" " (respect) and " "Ya? akstaλ" " (caring) for our territory, ensuring the Ahousaht Nation retains authority over its resources and a healthy environment for future generations.

Moccasin Footprint Society

Williams Lake | \$150,000.00

Moccasin Footprint Society is developing a Youth Rediscovery Camp on Caribou Island in Quesnel Lake, a place of deep cultural significance to northern Secwepemc people and our community. Following a successful camp, we plan to offer two camps and improve the site. Priorities include building an Elders cabin, clearing accessible trails, constructing a boat dock and outhouses, and installing signs. We aim to hire a worker for eight months annually over three years. Youth will learn about archaeology, history, harvesting, water, language, Secwepemc laws, genealogy, fish, and wildlife. Our long-term

vision is to have a structure that will house everyone and a place that can operate for at least 8 months per year.

Mother Earth Cultural Conservation Society

Cache Creek | \$150,000.00

Mother Earth Cultural Conservation Society (MECCS) is an Indigenous-led, non-profit organization based in B.C. focused on the stewardship and protection of traditional lands and waters, with a primary focus on McLeans Lake and surrounding areas. MECCS leads community-driven conservation initiatives that support healthy ecosystems, including land and water monitoring, habitat restoration, wildlife protection, and environmental data collection. Grounded in Indigenous knowledge and values, the organization also supports land-based education and youth engagement activities that strengthen cultural connection, environmental awareness, and community stewardship. Through on-the-ground action and collaborative approaches, MECCS works to protect ecologically and culturally significant areas for current and future generations.

People of Pukaist Society

Ashcroft | \$150,000.00

The People of Pukaist Society is an all-Indigenous-led organization preserving the heritage of a distinct Nlaka'pamux (Thompson) community in the Thompson River region. Our people – speakers of Nt̓eʔkepmxcín – have lived on this land since time immemorial, with traditional sites at Chilthmux, Quiltanon, and Po.klep anchoring our connection to territory. Our primary activities include Elder-guided archival research, oral history recording, genealogical research reconnecting dispersed families, and territorial mapping of traditional sites and food systems.

In 2025, we recovered over 2,100 historical documents and verified genealogical connections for eight Pukaist family lines. The next phase is now guiding our youth to use this knowledge, teaching them the skills to document and protect our heritage. Young people will learn drone mapping, water monitoring, and archival methods alongside Elders to build stronger connections between themselves, the land, and our culture.

Pepaken Hautw Food Systems Education Foundation

Brentwood Bay | \$150,000.00

PEPAKEN HÁUTW Foundation is a non-profit organization based in W̱SÁNEĆ and co-founded by W̱SÁNEĆ Members and Allies. Its mission is to provide participatory education and employment opportunities to W̱SÁNEĆ youth focused on supporting traditional and healthy food systems. W̱SÁNEĆ culture and SENĆOTEN language revitalization inherently guides our land stewardship and education work within the community. Through our Native Plant and Garden Nursery, along with community-based restoration, we provide educational programming for W̱SÁNEĆ youth to build relationships with the land and become stewardship leaders in their community.

PEPAKEN HÁUTW contributes to restoration and revitalization of native ecosystems, promotes biodiversity, and strengthens Indigenous food security and sovereignty in the W̱SÁNEĆ community and beyond. Healing the land from the ongoing effects of colonization and land development, we provide hands-on learning opportunities for W̱SÁNEĆ youth to reclaim autonomy over their food and cultural sovereignty.

Populous Map Society

Masset | \$150,000.00

We're a grassroots, Indigenous-led community archiving crew with nearly 400 volunteers across so-called B.C. We train and support the care, preservation, and community control of local archives. Over the last 12 years, we've supported more than 100 archives. Most of them aren't in museums or institutions...they're in a grandma's basement, an auntie's garage, or packed into boxes in someone's home. Knowledge Keepers hold these archives with integrity and responsibility, but often without resources or a plan for what happens next. The question becomes urgent: who will care for these materials when the people holding them no longer can?

Forty-seven Knowledge Keepers we worked beside have passed, and several physical archives were later lost to fires, floods, or an avalanche. We digitize materials where they are held, build local skills, and support Knowledge Keepers to decide how records are described, cared for, and accessed.

Qay'llnagaay Heritage Centre Society

Skidegate | \$150,000.00

The Qay'llnagaay Heritage Centre Society, also known as the Haida Heritage Centre, preserves and celebrates the living cultural heritage of the Haida people. Established in 1995, our cedar complex includes five monumental longhouses, the Haida Gwaii Museum, Performance House, Carving Shed, Canoe House, Bill Reid Teaching Centre, as well as multipurpose classrooms.

The Centre is a gathering place where Haida community members share stories, strengthen identity, and learn across generations. Guided by Elders and knowledge holders, our programs, workshops, exhibitions, and events support creative expression and cultural continuity. We also welcome visitors to learn about Haida histories, ancestral knowledge, contemporary

realities, and ways of life for generations.

As an Indigenous-led organization, our mandate is to safeguard living culture and empower community members through intergenerational learning, creative expression, and connection to land and sea.

Rise Up Indigenous Wellness Society

Salmon Arm | \$150,000.00

Rise Up is an Indigenous-led non-profit organization that supports Indigenous and other BIPOC children, youth, families, and Elders in the Shuswap region and surrounding rural communities in B.C. We strengthen holistic wellness, cultural identity, and community resilience by providing culturally grounded programs that reconnect people to land, culture, and community.

Our primary activities include land-based cultural camps, youth mentorship and leadership development, food sovereignty and food security initiatives, and culturally safe wellness gatherings for families and Elders. We deliver programming rooted in Indigenous ways of knowing and the teachings of the medicine wheel, supporting physical, emotional, mental, and spiritual wellbeing. Through our programs, we help build stronger community connections, support youth to step into leadership roles, and create spaces where Indigenous knowledge, culture, and community strengths continue to thrive for future generations.

Rising Tide Surf Society

Tofino | \$150,000.00

Rising Tide ('mułaa') provides culturally relevant instruction in surf and other holistic wellness activities alongside camaraderie, cultural knowledge and stewardship for Indigenous youth in nuučaánuł territories (near Tofino, B.C.). We recognize the impacts of colonization on Indigenous youth, and the benefits of cultural connection, physical activity, and self-

determination for overall well-being. In response we focus not only on physical skill-building, but also on fostering mentorship and leadership among youth, reigniting their connection to nature, bringing families together, and supporting active engagement in cultural practices. Our programming includes weekly spring and fall surf sessions; a two-week summer camp; and a winter ski and snowboard trip. By connecting Indigenous youth to their lands and waters, and creating a safe and fun space for healing and empowerment, mułaa's programming offers meaningful impacts for youth and the resilience of communities across nuučaanuł territories.

Skeena Watershed Conservation Coalition

Hazelton | \$150,000.00

Skeena Watershed Conservation Coalition works toward a sustainable future rooted in culture, healthy communities, a thriving environment, and abundant wild salmon. We recognize that short-term industrial development, including plans spanning decades, cannot serve our region if it weakens the social and environmental fabric connecting the watershed and its communities. Our activities reflect a long-term commitment to protecting the lands and waters that sustain people, cultures, wildlife, and local livelihoods. By bringing people together around shared responsibilities and practical solutions, we support decisions that honour the watershed's ecological limits and community values while safeguarding the Skeena region for generations to come.

Somali Community Network

Surrey | \$150,000.00

Somali Community Network is a Somali women-led organization based in Surrey, B.C, serving Somali women, mothers, elders, girls and youth across the Lower Mainland. Our purpose is to create culturally safe, community-led spaces that support connection, wellness, cultural preservation and access to information and resources.

Our primary activities include organizing culturally grounded programming such as health and wellness gatherings, intergenerational community events, cultural and arts-based activities and youth engagement initiatives. All our work is shaped by direct community feedback and guided by collective leadership ensuring our programs are responsive, accessible and accountable to the community we serve.

Spirit of the Children Society

New Westminster | \$150,000.00

Spirit of the Children Society's šxwʔáləqwaʔ Youth Hub is a safe, welcoming cultural space for Indigenous youth living in urban communities. The program offers after-school drop-ins for different age groups, day camps during summer and spring breaks, and one-to-one outreach support for youth who need extra connection. Many Indigenous youth face barriers related to isolation, system involvement, and loss of cultural connection. Our Youth Hub responds by creating consistent spaces where youth can build relationships, feel supported, and strengthen their sense of identity. We bring Elders and Knowledge Keepers into programming and go out into the community to support youth in learning about their cultures in meaningful, accessible ways. Through relationships, cultural teachings, and everyday support, the Youth Hub helps Indigenous youth feel a sense of belonging, build confidence, and grow in safe and supportive environments.

The Spo7ez Cultural Centre and Community Society

Whistler | \$150,000.00

The Squamish Lil'wat Cultural Centre is an Indigenous-owned and led non-profit institution in Whistler that shares the living cultures, histories, and contemporary realities of the Squamish and Lil'wat Nations. Through exhibitions, programs, employment, and learning experiences, it centres Indigenous voices, cultural continuity, and leadership. The Centre

strengthens identity, reclaims narrative power, and supports Indigenous people, especially youth, to thrive. Indigenous governance, cultural protocols, and intergenerational mentorship guide the work. Programs such as the Indigenous Youth Ambassador Program provide paid training and career pathways. The Centre builds reciprocal relationships so culture is shared with integrity, respect, accountability, and lasting community benefit.

Stalew Arts and Cultural Society

Langley | \$150,000.00

Stalew Arts and Cultural Society fosters nationhood and supports Indigenous community rebuilding through arts, culture, and language. We connect generations and strengthen relationships among the Coast Salish Nations of ḱíḱáý (Katzie), q̓ʷa:ḱʷáḱ (Kwantlen), Máthxwi (Matsqui), and Se'mya'me' (Semiahmoo) within the areas presently known as the City of Langley, Township of Langley and City of Surrey, B.C. Our workshops, programs, and events combine art forms to welcome broad community participation. Singing and drumming in hə́ḱəmiḱə́ and halq'éméylem are woven into dance, weaving, carving, visual arts, storytelling, and cooking. We also support local artists and cultural businesses. Guided by ancestral laws of health, happiness, generations, generosity, humbleness, forgiveness, and understanding, we advance social, cultural, and economic wellbeing for local Indigenous people across generations together.

Stswecem'c Xgat'tem First Nation

Dog Creek | \$150,000.00

Stswecem'c Xgat'tem First Nation is working toward self-government as a pathway to reconciliation, self-reliance, and a strong future for our people. Our priorities include community wellness, clear communication, economic development, sustainable infrastructure, and stronger organizational and community capacity. Through self-government, we seek to develop

and implement our own laws, make informed decisions for our members, and exercise greater authority over matters affecting our Nation. This work supports the long-term sustainability of our culture, lands, community, and shared wellbeing. By strengthening our systems and leadership, we are building the foundation for self-determination and opportunities shaped by our values and community priorities.

Students Overcoming Substance Use Disorder and Addictions Society of Canada

Surrey | \$150,000.00

Students Overcoming Substance Use and Addictions Society of Canada (SOUDA) was founded in 2019, responding to the growing toxic drug crisis affecting South Asian communities in B.C. A Fraser Health report highlighted that drug toxicity deaths among South Asian residents rose by 255 per cent between 2015 and 2018, compared to a 138 per cent increase in the rest of the population. Most affected were young men under 40, many facing stigma, language barriers, and limited access to culturally appropriate care.

To address these gaps, SOUDA provides culturally relevant education, outreach, and direct support. We deliver language-specific workshops and resources in Punjabi, Hindi, and English, bring conversations into trusted spaces such as Gurdwaras and schools, and offer one-on-one navigation support to connect individuals and families to harm reduction, treatment, and recovery services. SOUDA works to support youth, caregivers and families with tools to better navigate substance use and mental health services.

Support Network for Indigenous Women and Women of Colour

Victoria | \$150,000.00

SNIWWOC is dedicated to breaking down barriers that limit access to healthcare and full reproductive choice for BIPOC women, two-

spirit, and non-binary folks.

Our work is informed by a commitment to reproductive justice. Our services include one-on-one counselling, career planning, educational workshops, grocery support, peer support, free boxing, art therapy, menstrual freedom, dental hygiene clinic, domestic violence and addictions support, one-on-one advocacy, and referrals. We also have a healthcare app and podcast. All our clients are low-income racialized folks and receive these services free of charge. We believe that healing happens in community, not in isolation. We are stronger together.

Our key activities in 2025 resulted in; 344 women and 373 dependents receiving support, 1529 event attendees, 336,856 people engaged on social media, 7 counsellors providing support in 4 languages, and 15 peer support volunteers providing service in 6 languages.

Tanah Air Foundation

Vancouver | \$150,000.00

Tanah Air Project is a newcomer BIPOC-led nonprofit based in B.C. that bridges climate action, migration, and belonging. Tanah Air delivers community-designed education and storytelling initiatives that help newcomers and immigrants understand local climate pathways, develop leadership skills, and contribute meaningfully to climate solutions, while building connection and responsibility to the lands they now call home. The organization fosters Indigenous and immigrant solidarity by creating spaces for learning, dialogue, and reflection on land, history, and shared futures. This includes partnerships with Indigenous educators and community leaders to support respectful learning and relationship-building.

Tanah Air aims to reduce barriers that newcomers face in environmentalism and strengthen ways for participation, leadership, and long-term impact. The organization serves racialized newcomer and immigrant communities

across Metro Vancouver and beyond, building inclusive climate leadership that reflects the diversity, knowledge, and care already present in these communities.

Urban Native Youth Association

Vancouver | \$150,000.00

UNYA exists to empower Indigenous youth to thrive, lead, and inspire. Through a youth-led, youth-informed foundation of 20 holistic programs, spanning health, wellness, education, housing, arts, sport, and mentorship, UNYA provides wraparound supports that create culturally grounded, youth-driven pathways to success.

Our Philosophy of Care ensures Indigenous youth are centered in everything we do. All programs are rooted in this approach, creating culturally safe spaces where youth lead decision-making and shape the supports around them. Located in East Vancouver, UNYA serves Indigenous youth of all Nations aged 11-30, supporting more than 24,000 program visits annually across Metro Vancouver and engaging over 4,500 individual youth.

Van Vogue Jam Arts Society

Surrey | 150,000.00

The purpose of the Society is to create inclusive and affirming opportunities for racialized, queer, and diverse communities, as well as the broader public, to experience, learn about, and celebrate underground Ballroom art and dance culture, which originated in 1960s New York City. This is achieved through community-based programming, events, training, and public education.

A core focus of the Society is to support the Vancouver Ballroom scene and groups — including the Vancouver Kiki Ballroom Alliance as a grassroots, volunteer-led network founded by leaders of the local Kiki Ballroom scene in Metro Vancouver. Vancouver Kiki Ballroom Alliance is

dedicated to nurturing, protecting, and uplifting safe spaces for Indigenous, Black, and other racialized 2SLGBTQI+ individuals within the Ballroom community, while honouring the legacy and spirit of the original New York Ballroom movement.

Vancouver Aboriginal Child and Family Services Society (VACFSS)

Vancouver | \$150,000.00

We are an Indigenous-led, fully delegated, non-profit child and family services agency based in the Lower Mainland. Through delegation agreements, the Provincial Director of Child Welfare grants authority to Indigenous child and family service agencies like ours to administer parts of the Child, Family and Community Service Act. Established in 1992 from community advocacy, we offer a full spectrum of services encompassing family reunification and preservation, guardianship, child protection and resources.

We strive to culturally and spiritually strengthen the families we serve and our practice is guided by policy and research done in partnership with the communities we work alongside.

Within VACFSS we look to honour the journey of our youth by encompassing their voice in our policy and practice. Programs have been developed with the intent of nurturing our young Indigenous children and youth to be strong advocates and leaders for themselves and their communities.

Vancouver Black Therapy and Advocacy Foundation

Vancouver | \$150,000.00

Vancouver Black Therapy and Advocacy Foundation is an all-Black team of therapists and advocates who create healing spaces grounded in cultural safety, community care, and collective liberation. We work to dismantle financial, cultural, and systemic barriers to care, while

offering educational programming and social connection that fosters long-term wellbeing. What makes us unique is not just what we do, but how we do it: with deep community trust, lived experience, and an unwavering belief that Black healing is essential to collective wellbeing.

Through our partnership with MHBC, we're collaborating with Rainbow Refugee to research how Black LGBTQIA+ mental health needs are met in Canada. We ensure the knowledge being generated, and the policies we aim to shape, are grounded in lived reality and reflects true community need. We believe in "nothing about us without us." Our leadership, strategy, and programs are all informed by the trust built within a community of care.

Vancouver Island Caribbean Hub

Victoria | \$150,000.00

The Vancouver Island Caribbean Hub is a Black-led arts and culture organization dedicated to celebrating and advancing Caribbean arts, culture, and heritage in British Columbia. Through large-scale public festivals, cultural programming, educational initiatives, and community partnerships, the hub creates platforms for Caribbean and other equity-deserving artists, cultural practitioners, and businesses. Our work fosters cross-cultural understanding, supports artistic and professional development, and builds inclusive spaces where Caribbean culture is shared authentically by the communities it represents.

Volentia Healthcare Translation Society

Burnaby | \$150,000.00

At Volentia Healthcare Translation, we believe that the ability to communicate, understand, and be understood in one's own language is a fundamental human right. Despite Canada's tremendous diversity, many people with limited English proficiency struggle to understand medical information and navigate the healthcare system. Volentia provides free language services

to immigrants, newcomers, and those with limited English-language proficiency. Over the past three years, we have provided free interpretation and translation services in 22 languages for over 430 healthcare appointments in B.C. We also collaborate with Fraser Health, Vancouver Coastal Health, and BC Children's Hospital to translate patient-facing health information, thereby enhancing health literacy among BIPOC, minority, and other marginalized communities. By providing free language services, our goal is to increase the accessibility and improve the quality of culturally safe healthcare, as well as strengthen the therapeutic relationship between patients and their healthcare providers.

Xwéwenaqw Xwexwilmexw Cultural Reclamation Society

Maple Ridge | \$150,000.00

The Xwéwenaqw Xwexwilmexw (Whonnock People) Cultural Reclamation Society is an Indigenous-led organization dedicated to revitalizing Whonnock culture, language, and traditional practices in British Columbia. We address intergenerational trauma caused by colonization and residential schools by creating healing spaces for cultural transmission and community connection.

Our primary activities include language revitalization workshops that preserve and teach the Whonnock language to community members of all ages, traditional arts and crafts education that passes down ancestral knowledge and skills, and cultural gatherings that strengthen community bonds and identity. We facilitate youth mentorship programs that connect young people with elders and knowledge keepers, ensuring critical cultural knowledge transfers to the next generation. Additionally, we partner with educational institutions to incorporate Indigenous perspectives into curricula, advancing reconciliation through education.