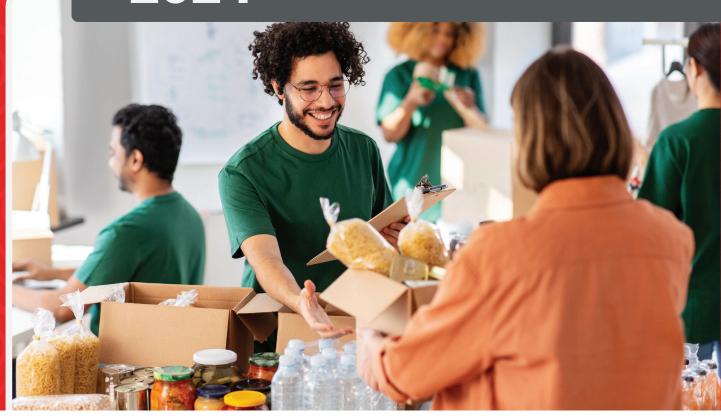


# **2024** ANNUAL REPORT



let's change lives together



## LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

United Way Fort McMurray and Wood Buffalo recognizes that we live, work and serve communities on Treaty 8 territory, the ancestral and traditional land of the Cree, Dene, and Métis people. We honour and acknowledge the Indigenous ancestors who marked these lands for generations and whose languages, histories and cultures continue to influence our vibrant region. Together may we all be stewards of the land.



St. Aidan's Arts in Action Program runs in collaboration with the Arts Council Wood Buffalo. The program improves the meaning, purpose and social relationships of 279 seniors.

In the image you can see an example of one of the art projects seniors have worked to complete.

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## PRESIDENT'S REPORT



It's easy to look back and focus on how hard it's been for people in the Wood Buffalo region, community agencies, and United Way. What's more important though, is that we look ahead and find opportunities we might have missed along the way. Along with these opportunities, we are finding ourselves feeling gratitude for the support we continue to receive from donors and the community at large.

Meeting challenges and change head-on requires self-reflection, and as an organization, United Way is doing just that. As we leave 2024 behind, 2025 presents a slate of possibilities that will make us a stronger, more responsive community leader and partner. A close examination of our strategic priorities

is first on our to-do list, a vital exercise that brings a wide range of stakeholders and partners' feedback and perspective on how we should be showing up in community.

Yes, United Way is a funder, but it is so much more. Our responsibility extends beyond agency financial support. With relationships and partners across different sectors, we have a unique high-level perspective on how to provide support through capacity building and creating partnership connections.

We are excited about the 2025 Campaign and the chance we have to tell even more people about the incredible and critical work community agencies do and the people they serve. We have another new season to provide opportunities for people to give in ways that are meaningful to them, whether that be time, money, expertise, or something else.

As always, thank you to the United Way team, Board of Directors, our partner agencies, donors, and supporters for continuing to serve the Wood Buffalo region. We are better together.

Sincerely,

Micole Kymes
Board President

## **MISSION**

Our mission is to improve lives and build community, engage individuals and mobilize collective action by raising, distributing, and stewarding donors.

## **VISION**

Our vision is of a thriving community where everyone can realize their potential.

## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**



2024 has been a challenging year for United Way Fort McMurray and Wood Buffalo. The Wood Buffalo region continues to experience increasing inflation and unemployment rates, meaning the need for services rises yet fundraising revenue continues to trend downward. Our organization has also faced significant challenges with changes in leadership, working to decrease administrative costs, all while trying to provide the same level of community leadership as a major funding partner should.

But challenges also bring opportunities. We are taking this opportunity to refresh our strategic direction so it accurately reflects our current economic, political, and social realities. In addition to strategic planning, we are

proactively looking for ways to provide non-financial support to community agencies. As a community leader, we are well positioned to identify unique and innovative collaborations between ourselves and other stakeholders, as well as opportunities to bring agencies together.

The strength of our community lies in our shared vision of a healthy community, where all people have not only their basic needs met, but opportunities to thrive. With our collective compassion and ability to collaborate, the people of the Wood Buffalo region will continue to be supported by the most hardworking people and agencies in the province.

United Way Fort McMurray and Wood Buffalo is exceptionally grateful for the continued partnerships with social service agencies, community leaders, and especially donors who entrust us to steward their donations in ways that will have the most meaningful impact.

Sincerely,

Paula Galenzoski Executive Director

## **VALUES**

- Partnerships, innovation, and collective action.
- Financial transparency and responsibility to our customers (the givers of time, talent, or donations, whether individuals, community groups, stakeholders, or corporations).
- Diversity, equity, and inclusion with a focus on Indigenous and rural initiatives, and
- The art of community service through volunteerism.

## **OUR PILLARS, OUR PARTNERS**

### FROM POVERTY TO POSSIBILITY











## **HEALTHY PEOPLE, STRONG COMMUNITIES**





















## **ALL THAT KIDS CAN BE**



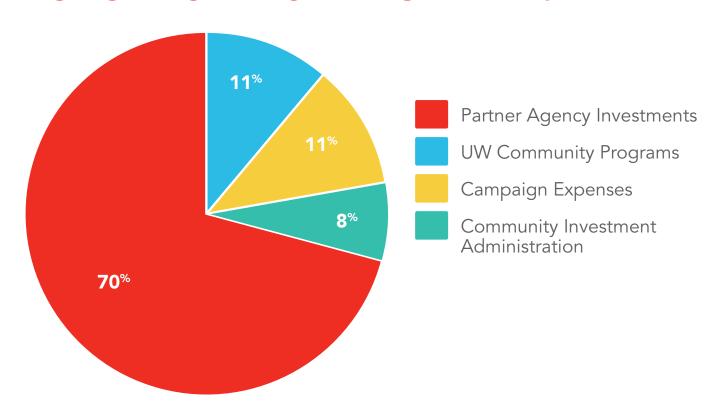








## **DONOR DOLLARS AT WORK IN 2024**



## **INVESTMENT OVERVIEW**

2024 COMMUNITY \$2,086,589 CAMPAIGN TOTAL



\*375,972



\$362,235



\$30,495



\$1,317,837

# LET'S CHANGE LIVES to gether

### THE REDPOLL CENTRE

The Redpoll Centre is a welcoming and supportive administrative workspace designed to foster collaboration and growth among community benefit organizations. As a hub for connection and knowledge sharing, it brings together professionals and groups with shared values, strengthening the social impact sector in Fort McMurray and Wood Buffalo.

Anchored by United Way Fort McMurray and Wood Buffalo, The Redpoll Centre subleases office space to a diverse range of social profit entities, including organizations focused on sports, arts, culture, Indigenous initiatives, and other community services. Currently, the centre is home to nine non-profit tenants.

In addition to office space, The Redpoll Centre offers meeting facilities, including the newly renovated Barb Jewers Meeting Place, which is now available to be booked by outside organizations. Through its collaborative environment and shared resources, The Redpoll Centre continues to support the vital work of community organizations, driving positive change in the region.







### **PERIOD PROMISE**

Launched in 2023, the Period Promise program by United Way Fort McMurray and Wood Buffalo aims to reduce period poverty and menstrual stigma in our community. By providing free menstrual products, the program ensures students have access to essential hygiene supplies, removing barriers to education and daily activities.

In 2024, thanks to the generosity of an anonymous donor, the program received 13,068 pads, allowing us to continue supporting those in need. This year, 9 schools and 1 community centre across the Wood Buffalo region, including Janvier, Anzac, Fort Chipewyan, and Fort McKay, benefited from the initiative.

Through Period Promise, United Way remains committed to promoting dignity, equity, and accessibility for all, ensuring that no one misses out on opportunities due to lack of menstrual products.

### **TOOLS FOR SCHOOL**

Tools for School is an ongoing initiative in partnership with United Way Fort McMurray and Wood Buffalo and Staples, ensuring that every child has the necessary supplies to succeed in school. By providing essential school materials, the program helps reduce financial barriers for families and supports students in their learning journey.

This year, Tools for School distributed 315 school supply kits. Students from the Catholic and Public School Boards, École Boréale, and the Anzac Community School benefited from the program, ensuring they had the tools they needed to participate fully in their education.

Through the continued generosity of our donors and community partners, Tools for School remains committed to supporting local students and fostering educational success across the region.







## **OUR AGENCIES**

We are fortunate to work alongside an impressive array of community agencies and partners, each playing a crucial role in our efforts to alleviate poverty, strengthen community and families, and support healthy development of children and youth. By maintaining a diverse portfolio of poverty-fighting organizations, we can respond to changing needs, develop lasting solutions, and address critical issues. Together, we are all making a meaningful impact in our community.

20 AGENCIES FUNDED

\$2,836,000

DONOR DOLLARS
DIRECTLY TO LOCAL
AGENCIES

# Autism Society of the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo

- Provided Autism and Neurodiversity Awareness Training to 110 community members.
- Hosted a sensory-friendly Halloween party with 86 participants attending which provided neurodiverse children the opportunity to make friends and maintain friendships.
- Hosted a sensory-friendly Christmas party with 79 participants attending.
- Provided 6,143 hours of respite to 91 families of children with disabilities.
- 19 youth (10-14yrs) graduated/competed in the PEERS Social Skills Program.







## **Centre of Hope**

- Provided services to 1,826 unique individuals in the year 2024. Services that were provided include basic needs, connection with heath supports, addiction and mental health supports as well as housing options.
- Referred 743 individuals to housing supports.
- Provided a total of 7,143 showers to clients.
- Helped 557 individuals file their tax returns and obtain GST, and other government subsidies.
- 1,561 new individuals accessed services in the last fiscal year.
- Provided nourishment to 90-100 patrons on a daily basis through street reach.









## Fort McMurray Search and Rescue

- Provided 571 volunteer hours to facilitate training for the members of the community.
- Participated in 32 training exercises within the community.
- Provided services to 132 individuals in Fort McMurray, Fort Chipewyan, and 1 in Janvier.

## **Golden Years Society**

 120 seniors come out of their homes weekly for a hot nutritious meal that some of the seniors would not necessarily get at home.



- In a year around 6,000 meals are served to seniors.
- Regular collaboration with Nistawayou Friendship Centre and St. Aidan's Society for events, consistently welcoming an average of 30 participants.
- Hosted games (cards, crib, cornhole), chair yoga, tai chi, luncheons, and coffee time with the number of attendees averaging 60 people per week.





### Justin Slade Youth Foundation



- Provided 71 youth with the opportunity to learn different recipes and learn the life skill of cooking.
- Delivered 136 different activities to 617 unique youth individuals throughout the year that provide opportunities, resources, and mentorship, ensuring that they have the tools and support needed to succeed and contribute positively to society.
- 3,053 contacts made in all the programs in the year 2024.









## **Kidsport**

- 582 kids were funded in organized sport.
- Supported 36 kids to play hockey.
- Supported 82 kids to play soccer.
- Supported 114 kids to play basketball.
- Supported 24 kids to participate in dance lessons.
- Supported 32 kids to play football.



## **Some Other Solutions**

- Delivered 13 Community Helpers Program (CHP) presentations to youth and young adults, focusing on mental health awareness, crisis response, and peer support.
- Facilitated modules for the Community Helpers Program (CHP) to 308 youth and young adults (ages 12–25), with 13 presentations delivered.
- Hosted 14 sessions for the HOM Group Program with 21 participants.
- Hosted 4 sessions of the Socialization Star Program with 12 participants.
- Hosted 3 sessions of the Friendship Small Group Program with 6 participants.
- Provided 268 sessions to 147 individuals for mentoring.
- Provided direct engagement to 998 individual participants in the year 2024.
- Provided Health and Wellness Counselling Services to 279 clients.
- Hosted 1,267 sessions in the year 2024.





### **Local Hero Foundation**

- Received 129 calls from the Emergency Link Centre, 57% of calls were to rural Indigenous communities. Provided opportunities for better health outcomes for patients and their families.
- Flew 123 hours in 2024 responding to dispatched medical emergencies, workplace incidents, recreational incidents, and motor vehicle incidents.
- Transferred 31 patients to high-level care.
- On call 24/7 in ready state providing increased safety in our region and peace of mind for those living, working and visiting the region.



## **Multicultural Association**

- Provided 376 newcomer students with an English language, writing, and reading education.
- Transitioned 5 students out of the program achieving Alberta Education benchmark levels.
- 3,160 volunteer hours were provided to newcomer students.
- Provided English Learners Language Assistance (ELLA) Program to 7 schools in Fort McMurray.







## Nistawoyou Friendship Centre

- Supported 2,848 individuals in the RMWB, 2 in Fort Chipewyan, 27 in Conklin, 667 in Janvier, and 35 in Anzac with programs and services.
- 1,450 youth, 438 elders and 960 seniors engaged in Indigenous cultural teachings, programs, and services while having the opportunity for inclusive and social interactions.
- No. 198 W.A.F.C
- Worked with The Salvation Army to ensure the Elders meals were delivered to rural communities each month.
- Worked with Aunties in Reach ensuring clothing, food, formula, diapers, and more reached all the rural communities serving 1,398 infants and children in 2024.





## **Pastew Place Detox Centre Society**

- 101 individuals accessed the pre-treatment program.
- 89 of the above mentioned clients successfully transitioned into residential treatment.
- 3 of the above mentioned clients remained on caseload at the end of the year.
- Pre-treatment achieved a 91% success rate in transitioning individuals to the next stage.











## **Salvation Army**

- Provided financial assistance for 2 families fleeing domestic violence, an individual transitioned from the shelter to permanent housing, and a senior obtained housing.
- Provided assistance with utility arrears for 3 families.
- The Salvation Army operates 10 programs, 5 of which operate 24 hours a day, 365 days per year in Fort McMurray.
- The Food Services Department provided (in addition to meals served and food hampers provided) 14,483 bag lunches to individuals struggling with food security during the fiscal reporting period.
- Community and Family Services supported 1,660 adults, 877 children, and 70 Seniors during in office and community visits during the reporting period.
- Organized the Angel Tree program and Family sponsorship program during the Christmas season providing gifts and food to 186 families and 102 individuals within Janvier, FMFN, and Fort McMurray.
- Emergency shelter and MAT program provided services to 5,151 individuals – 1,636 were Indigenous.

## **Legacy Counselling Centre**

- Provided one-on-one counselling sessions to 117 children, 29 youths, 21 adults, and 11 couples/families.
- In 2024, United Way helped to provide 558 child sessions, 160 sessions to youths, and 100 adult sessions.







## St. Aidan's Society

- 1,840 volunteer hours were provided to seniors through the volunteer program. Volunteer hours were used for the following: 1,010 hours for personal contacts, 308 hours for phone calls.
- 1,765 referrals were made for seniors to community resources and services to help improve quality of life.
- Conducted 736 case management meetings with seniors.
- Facilitated 824 brokered and 941 supported referrals for older adults.
- Provided assistance to 546 seniors in securing housing, 1,284 seniors with financial matters, 356 seniors in accessing transportation services, 1,165 seniors with health and medical needs, 217 seniors with mental health support, 230 seniors in enhancing personal safety, 92 seniors with employment inquiries, 71 seniors with addiction-related concerns, 313 seniors in fostering social connections to prevent isolation and loneliness, and 252 seniors in meeting their basic needs.
- Helped 61 seniors experiencing elder abuse.









United Way Fort McMurray and Wood Buffalo is a Living Wage Employer in the Province of Alberta. This means we are committed to paying our employees a living wage that allows them to meet their basic needs and participate in their communities. A living wage is different from a minimum wage in that minimum wage is mandatory and the same throughout the province while a living wage reflects what people need to cover the actual costs of living in their communities.

Payment of a living wage is a voluntary commitment from employers to go beyond the minimum. The living wage for Fort McMurray is \$23.50

## **Support Services Wood Buffalo**

(formerly known as Support Through Housing Team)

- Transitioned 6 families into stable housing.
- Assisted 118 low-income Albertan to complete their tax returns.
- Provided life skills and employment support to 43 individuals.
- Served a total of 1,301 clients in 2024.
- Provided short-term supportive services to 59 individuals, sub-serving 9 minors.









## The Children's Centre

- 125 referrals were made to other community agencies.
- 112 referrals were received by The Children's Centre.
- 429 grocery gift cards were given out to Pre/Postnatal participants.
- 288 Preschool meals were served in 2024.
- 9,886 contacts were made through in-person, phone, email, website and Facebook pages for 2024.
- 98 milk coupons were given out to Pre/Postnatal participants in Janvier and Conklin.
- In the year 2024, The Children's Centre provided support to 312 moms and 289 babies in Fort McMurray.

## The HUB Family Resource Centre

- Supported 4,054 unique individuals through Family Support and Early Learning programs.
- Supported 3,899 unique individuals living in Fort McMurray, 19 in Fort Chipewyan, 21 in Conklin, 42 in Janvier, and 26 in Anzac with early learning and social support programming, increasing equitable access to services for Indigenous and rural communities.
- Completed 81 Safe Visits and 73 Safe Exchanges, allowing children in families where domestic violence has occurred to create positive connections with their caregiver in a safe, supervised setting.











## **Waypoints**

- The Sexual Assault Program has provided counselling services to 37 individuals residing within the RMWB.
- A total of 99 presentations, events, and information booths were conducted, reaching over 3,800 attendees, including both adults and children in 2024.
- 310 individuals received support services through STSS and CYAC.
- Over 523 contacts were recorded through sessions and crises calls.

# Wood Buffalo Safe/Healthy Community Network

- Delivered 850 Anti-Drinking & Driving Liquor Bags to local liquor stores.
- Provided Halloween safety presentations and reflective safety bags to 1,093 youth.
- 103 car seats were checked by Certified Child Passenger Safety Technicians in 2024.
- 89 Newcomers attended the Newcomer Winter Preparedness Program.
- Delivered the multi-day PARTY (Prevent Alcohol & Risk Related Trauma in Youth) Program to over 1,075 Grade 9 students in the Wood Buffalo region providing education on the impacts of impaired, drowsy, and distracted driving.







## **Wood Buffalo Wellness Society**

- 113 primarily Indigenous moms, dads, aunties, uncles, brothers, and sisters attended the Mark Amy Treatment Centre to alter their path in life.
- 59 individuals graduated and completed their treatment and learned to re-enter the world in a sober state.
- 100 Indigenous individuals and their families were able to heal through ceremony, in a way that is most sustainable and relevant to Indigenous people.
- 90% of residents were connected to Psychiatry.
- 85% of residents were connected to in house Addiction Counsellors.
- Upon entering Tawâw, resident interactions with police, EMS, emergency room and hospital decreased. 87% decrease in police interactions, 95% decrease in emergency room visits, and 405 decreases in ambulance rides.



## **IMPACT STORY**

# ENSURING FINANCIAL SECURITY FOR OLDER ADULTS: ST. AIDAN'S SOCIETY IMPACT STORY

Financial security is a fundamental component of healthy aging and overall well-being for older adults. Ensuring access to comprehensive support services—including healthcare, personal safety, housing, food, clothing, and mental health care—is essential to meeting their diverse needs.

Through the establishment of 'super clinics,' these partnerships have enabled Elders and seniors to access essential financial supports an average of 16 weeks faster than they would have otherwise. These clinics have been a game changer, providing direct support and guidance to those navigating complex financial systems.

St. Aidan's Society, our dedicated partner agency, plays a crucial role in delivering financial education workshops and personalized assistance throughout the region. In 2024 alone, St. Aidan's provided financial security workshops to 84 Elders and seniors followed by extensive individualized support. Additionally, 13 staff members—5 in urban areas and 8 in rural communities—received specialized training to sustain these critical services and ensure ongoing support for older adults in need as capacity in rural hamlets has increased.

One particularly impactful intervention took place when a St. Aidan's Link Worker travelled to Fort Chipewyan to provide financial education sessions and one-on-one support to Elders. One Elder in our community was facing significant financial hardship, burdened with a \$10,000 debt to the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA). The weight of this debt, combined with limited access to financial resources, created immense stress and uncertainty about her future. However, through the collaborative efforts of St. Aidan's Society, the CRA, Service Canada, and another United Way partner agency, Support Services Wood Buffalo (formerly STHT), a solution was within reach.

A thorough reassessment of the Elder's tax situation uncovered errors that had led to her significant debt. With the support of the Link Worker, these errors were rectified, resulting in the immediate resolution of her outstanding balance. But the impact didn't stop there—further evaluation determined that she was eligible for additional financial benefits that she had not been accessing. Applications were submitted on her behalf, leading to the approval of an additional \$833 per month in financial support.

This increase in income not only improved her financial security but also significantly enhanced her quality of life. The relief and peace of mind she gained through this process highlight the profound impact of these vital services. These services and the positive impact on-lives, underscores the power of donor dollars in action.

At United Way Fort McMurray and Wood Buffalo, we maximize the impact of every dollar you donate by supporting a vast network of social profit agencies that provide essential services in the community. Our goal is to help people of all ages thrive and reach their full potential. This story highlights the power of collaboration, compassion, and community investment—transforming lives and building a stronger, more resilient future for everyone in our region.



# atitude



## MILLENNIUM

(\$100,000+)

Canadian Natural Resources

Suncor Energy Foundation Syncrude Operated by Suncor

## BENEFACTOR

(\$25,000 - \$49,999)

**CNOOC** 

**RBC** Foundation

## PLATINUM

(\$10,000 - \$24,999)

Imperial Oil Foundation John Wilson Family Fund

## SILVER

(\$2,500 - \$4,999)

Enbridge Pipeline Scotiabank

Wolf Midstream

### **BRONZE**

(\$1,200 - \$2,499)

Pinkney Wealth Management TD Bank Financial Group



## **WORKPLACE EMPLOYEE DONORS**

### **MILLENNIUM**

(\$100,000+)

Canadian Natural Resources

Suncor Energy

### HERITAGE

(\$50,000 - \$75,000)

Syncrude Operated by Suncor

## BENEFACTOR

(\$25,000 - \$49,999)

**Primoris** 

## **PLATINUM**

(\$10,000 - \$24,999)

A&W Fort McKay

A&W Fort McMurray Restaurants

The Children's Centre NP Society of Fort McMurray

**Waypoints** 

YMM International Airport

### SILVER

(\$2,500 - \$4,999)

Enbridge Pipeline

Fort McMurray Public Schools

McKay Métis Group

Salvation Army Community Service Centre

TD Bank Financial Group

### **BRONZE**

(\$1,200 - \$2,499)

A.A. Indar Professional Corporation

Autism Society of RMWB

Ecole Dickensfield School

Fort McMurray Chamber of Commerce

Government of Alberta

Meyers Realty Inc.

Pay Pal Giving Fund

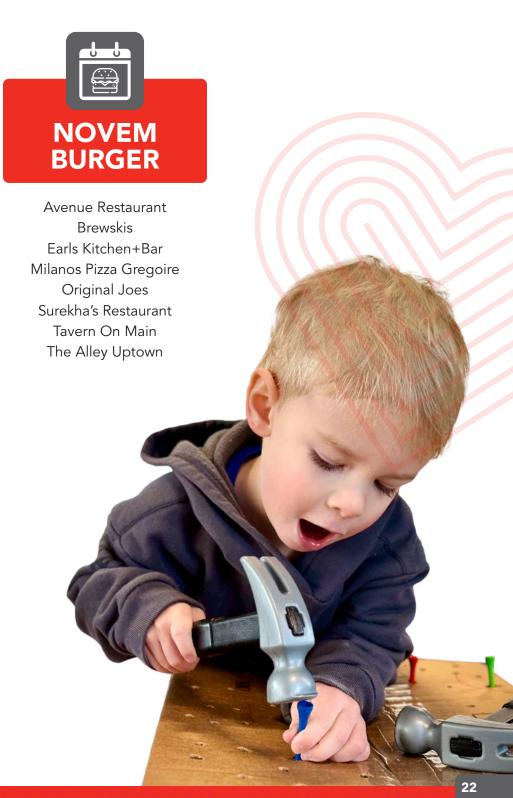
The Hub Family Resource Centre

Wolf Midstream

## **2024 Donor Contributors**



A & W Fort McMurray Acden Birch Mountain Enterprises Blow up your Birthday Culligan DF Boiler and Tube Elements Events FM Copiers Harvard Media HJ3 Composit Tech Kal Tire Kingwood Décor & Laser La Mesita Restaurant McKay Métis Group Ltd. Midlite Powerline Construction Printing Unlimited Sobeys Downtown Sobeys Thickwood Stantec







## **INDIVIDUAL DONORS**

### PLATINUM (\$10,000 -

(\$10,000 -\$24,999)

Hogg, Joanne Mackenzie, Ken Rosser, Andrew

## GOLD

(\$5,000 - \$9,999)

Doust, Joanne Farwell, Kim Kachur, Patrick, W Pond, Bradley Macedo, Yun, Yun

### **SILVER** (\$2,500 - \$4,999)

Aitken, Robin
Arthur, David
Clancy, Daniel
Cryderman, Chris &
Kristy
Demers, Susan
Dickinson, Lindsay
Hall, Maureen
King, Christopher
Lamontagne, R.

Lemesurier, Laurence Melnyk, Kevin Payne, Benjamin Penney, Donovan Reimer, Jason Rumjan, James Rymes, Nicole Sanftleben, Nancy Sather, Ben Tutt, William

## **BRONZE** (\$1,200 - \$2,499)

Bartlett, Stanley Beaudry, Michelle Bennett, Shannon Bolt, Jonathan Bolt, Paula Bond, Glenda Breen, Dwayne Budden, Matthew Cap, Kelly Carty, Ryan Chisholm, Tom Ciborowski, Jan Cutler, Kristen Doucette, Bruce Doust, Joanne Dunn, Bob Epp, Marjorie Erickson, Brian

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Langevin, Shawn Lomond, Paul, T Mallay, Sean Mayers, Robert Mcdonald, Aaron Mcgee, Daniel Mckay, Nicholas Mcleod, Robert Mennie, Brenda Meyers, Tracy Mubarak, Majid Payne, Paul Peters, Richard, K Pollard, Christopher Pond, Bradley Punko, Alcide Qureshi, Samir Rose, Jeff Seymour, Chantal

Shannon, Leanne Skinner, Alexander Sly, Lori Smith, Marina Sturge, William Thompson, Adair Thompson, Grant Unger, Tracy Ure, Graham Van, Beek, William Vaudan, Richard Williams, Eric Wiseman, Mark Yip, Jeffrey Young, Crystal Young, Dale



## **MEET OUR TEAM**

### **STAFF**

Paula Galenzoski **Executive Director** 

Maryellen Fenech Director of Finance & Administration

Pavlina Vaverka Finance Coordinator

Sophia Joyce Piosca Redpoll Administrator

Tammy McGlennon Community Impact Director

Jonathan Davies **Business Development** Leader



### **BOARD**

**Nicole Rymes** President

Bill Van Beek Vice President

Michelle Velez 2nd Vice President/CI Chair

Andrea Eldridge Treasurer

IJ Uche-Ezeala Director

Mike Vickers Director

Suman Jafri Director

**Funky Banjoko** Director

Dango Gogo Director

Jessica Lipton Director

**Bob MacKay** Campaign Chair

Our volunteers and donors are pivotal in enabling United Way to address the social needs of Fort McMurray and Wood Buffalo. Their passionate involvement creates positive, lasting change in our community.

### **VOLUNTEERS**

**CI Committee** 

**Dustin Stuyt** Tyler Elcombe Len Savoy Skyanne Patey Irina Romero Jennifer McLeod Gwen Leepart

Barbara Muise Cathie Langmead

Rajeev Varma **Guy Choquet** Yvonne Osawaru

Freeman Falloon

Luana Busieres Linda Mywaart

Dawn Sidoroff

Mohammed **Abdirahman** 

Redpoll Halloween Rogelio P Caraecle III

Apple Joy Cruz

Monstertruck & 50/50 Raffle, YMM Halloween Jen Gomed

YMM Halloween Allan Stefan Gomed

> Novemburger Ambasador

Danny Tulk

Kerri Dakin

Mike Jones

Steeve Reeve Tim Dyck

**Administrative** Support

Jeanne Goudie Cathy Stewart

## TREASURER'S REPORT



United Way Fort McMurray and Wood Buffalo (UWFMWB) faced a challenging 2024. With a change in leadership came many challenges, but also opportunities to review how and what we do. One of the main goals the board put forward was reducing operational expenses while reengaging donors and workplace campaigns.

For the year ended December 31, 2024, the UWFMWB shows a slight increase in total revenue of \$333,510. Even with this increase, there was an overall deficit of \$1,029,948, which was taken out of the Internally Restricted net assets (see condensed statement of financial position). The board

committed to implementing a new community investment strategy which will impact the 2025 fiscal year.

For the year ended December 31, 2024, total expenses were \$4,053,325, a decrease of \$706,041 from 2023. The board and staff are focused on reducing expenses to ensure our continued ability to steward donor dollars and support local agencies.

Looking forward to 2025 UWFMWB Board of Directors and staff are committed to reflecting on strategies of the past and making necessary adjustments to improve the overall financial health of the organization.

In addition to the specific points of focus mentioned above, the Board of Directors and staff will continue to ensure:

- The presence of proper internal controls
- The maintenance of adequate cash reserves
- The review of investment accounts (by delegated Board members quarterly, and by the entire Board of Directors annually) and adherence to applicable investment policies
- The continuous improvement in financial reporting and transparency for review by the Board

While the financial statements reflect another year of deficit, UWFMWB finished with a lower deficit than the approved budget. The Board of Directors and staff continue to be committed to ensuring the sustainability and future of our organization, and look forward to 2025.

Sincerely,

Andrea Eldridge

Treasurer – United Way Fort McMurray and Wood Buffalo

## REPORT OF INDEPENDENT AUDIT

To the Members of United Way Fort McMurray and Wood Buffalo:

### Opinion

The condensed financial statements, which comprise the condensed statement of financial position as at December 31, 2024, and the condensed statements of operations for the year then ended, and related notes, are derived from the audited financial statements of United Way Fort McMurray and Wood Buffalo (the "Organization") for the year ended December 31, 2024. We expressed a qualified opinion on those financial statements in our report dated February 13, 2025.

In our opinion, the accompanying condensed financial statements are a fair summary of the audited financial statements, in accordance with the basis described in the note to the condensed financial statements. However, we were not able to determine if any adjustments to the condensed financial statements were necessary for the reasons described in *The Audited Financial Statements and Our Report Thereon* section of this report.

#### **Condensed Financial Statements**

The condensed financial statements do not contain all the disclosures required by Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations. Reading the condensed financial statements and the auditor's report thereon, therefore, is not a substitute for reading the audited financial statements and the auditor's report thereon.

#### The Audited Financial Statements and Our Report Thereon

We expressed a qualified audit opinion on the audited financial statements in our report dated February 13, 2025. The basis for our qualified audit opinion was, as is common with many charitable organizations, United Way FortM cMurray and Wood Buffalo derives revenue from donations and fundraising, the completeness of which is notsusc eptible of satisfactory audit verification. Accordingly, our verification of these revenues was limited to the amounts recorded in the records of the Organization and we were not able to determine whether any adjustments might be necessary to campaign contributions and pledges, deficiency of revenue over expenses, cash flows from operations, current assets, current liabilities and net assets.

### Management's Responsibility for the Condensed Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation of the condensed financial statements in accordance with Canadian Auditing Standard (CAS) 810, "Engagements to Report on Summary Financial Statements."

### Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on whether the condensed financial statements are a fair summary of the audited financial statements based on our procedures, which were conducted in accordance with Canadian Auditing Standards (CAS) 810, Engagements to Report on Summary Financial Statements.

Fort McMurray, Alberta

February 13, 2025

MN/ LLP
Chartered Professional Accountants

MNP LLP

9707 Main Street, Fort McMurray AB, T9H 1T5

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## **FINANCIAL POSITION**

# United Way Fort McMurray and Wood Buffalo Condensed Statement of Financial Position

As at December 31, 2024

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	2024	2023
Assets		
Current assets	7,108,118	8,334,091
Capital assets	377,412	320,530
	7,485,530	8,654,621
Liabilities		
Current liabilities	110,671	249,888
Jnamortized deferred capital contributions	176	201
	110,847	250,089
Net Assets		
Invested in capital assets	377,236	320,329
Internally restricted net assets	2,874,463	3,958,804
Tomorrow fund Capital fund	3,405,734 717,250	2,868,434 1,256,965
Capital fund	717,200	1,200,000
	7,374,683	8,404,532
	7,485,530	8,654,621

Complete financial statements can be viewed at <a href="mailto:fmwbunitedway.com/about-us/financials/">fmwbunitedway.com/about-us/financials/</a>

## **FINANCIAL OPERATIONS**

# United Way Fort McMurray and Wood Buffalo Condensed Statement of Operations

For the year ended December 31, 2024

	2024	2023
Revenue		
Support revenue	2,150,269	2,161,691
Provision for uncollectible pledges	(37,524)	(40,110)
Other revenue	702,601	360,255
	2,815,346	2,481,836
Expenses General and administrative expenses		
Campaign expenses	436,590	540,420
Community investment	3,140,340	3,697,626
Redpoll expenses	415,665	397,370
Fire recovery investments Community services recovery	63,730	34 126,916
	4,056,325	4,762,366
Deficiency of revenue over expenses before other item	(1,240,979)	(2,280,530)
Other item		
Unrealized gain on investments	211,130	176,435
Deficiency of revenue over expenses	(1,029,849)	(2,104,095)

Please note: As of January 2006, all United Ways across Canada adopted the Transparency Accountability in Financial Reporting (TAFR) Policy. This policy is focused on supporting the Development of Standard statements between all United Ways in Canada.

This is a condensed version of United Way Fort McMurray and Wood Buffalo's financial statements. The complete documents can be obtained by contacting United Way Fort McMurray and Wood Buffalo or by visiting www.fmwbunitedway.com



Improving lives and building community by engaging individuals and mobilizing collective action.



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