



USF ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT



Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and thank you to all our 2025 Donors from Urban Spirit Foundation.

EB Horsman, Kenny Foundation, RBC, ScotiaRise, Francesca di Bastiani, Neptune Terminals, Prosafe Training Group, Pfizer, Takeda, Amgen, Rogers Canada, Seaspan, Armstrong Family Foundation, Fortis BC, Jam Communications

Urban Spirit Foundation
#108-100 Park Royal South
West Vancouver, BC V7T 1A2



URBAN SPIRIT FOUNDATION

December 2025

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Mission Statement : To provide employment and training opportunities, scholarships, and the relief of poverty to urban Indigenous people on their journey to success



Urban Spirit Foundation extends heartfelt gratitude to EB Horsman for their continued generosity and support over the years. In recognition of their contributions, USF proudly presented them with a plaque of appreciation. Thank you, EB Horsman, for standing with us and helping to uplift Indigenous communities. Photo: Reg Galati, Director Projects Strategic Supply Agreements, Director of Development, Kristen Wealick, President and CEO, Tim Horsman, and Director of Commercial Sales and Vendors Relations, Wade Emmons.

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URBAN SPIRIT FOUNDATION

Urban Spirit Foundation strives to meet the needs of Indigenous people to help them overcome the multiple barriers they face to achieve higher education. Over the years, we have awarded scholarships totaling over \$222,000.

Each year USF supports the Vancouver Aboriginal Friendship Centre's Children's Back-to-School Backpack Program. Children receive a backpack filled with school supplies to start the new school year. USF also supports the VAFCS Children's Christmas Party where low-income families receive a food hamper and each child receives a present to open on Christmas morning.

USF is proud of our achievements. This year USF provided top student awards for all the trades training programs.

In August, Urban Spirit Foundation raised over \$35,000 at the USF Annual Urban Indigenous Charity Golf Classic. In November, we raised over \$4,000 at the Giving Tuesday USF Chili and Bannock fundraiser. We wish to thank you for your generous donations. Together we can make great things happen.



CHILI AND BANNOCK FUNDRAISER

Urban Spirit Foundation had the 11th Annual Giving Tuesday Chili and Bannock Lunch-To-Go Fundraiser on December 2nd. Thank you to our community partners for coming out to support USF. The fundraiser helps to raise money to support ACCESS programs. Thank you to all our supporters who helped to make this another successful event! Wishing you all a safe and happy holiday season.



USF ANNUAL CHARITY GOLF CLASSIC

Urban Spirit Foundation held the 11th Annual Urban Indigenous Charity Golf Classic Tournament at Country Meadows Golf Club in Richmond on July 25, 2025. We raised over \$35,000 this year to support Indigenous students with education, employment and training programs and scholarships. Thank you to all our sponsors, players, and volunteers who helped to make this event a huge success. We hope to see you all again in 2026 at the 12th Annual!



VAFCS CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

Urban Spirit Foundation supports the Vancouver Aboriginal Friendship Centre's Children's Back-to-School Backpack Program. This year 332 backpacks were given out to Children filled with supplies they need to prepare them for success in the new school year.

USF also supports the VAFCS Children's Christmas Program. Food hampers are given to low-income families, and 250 children received a present from Santa to open on Christmas morning. USF would like to ensure no child goes hungry, so please give generously to make someone's Christmas extra special this year.



ACCESS TRADES GRADUATIONS

Urban Spirit Foundation proudly supports the Aboriginal Community Career Employment Services Society (ACCESS) Trades Program participants.

At each program completion ceremony, USF presents top student awards to outstanding participants. These recipients are selected by the Student Support Coach and Program Instructor based on their performance and dedication throughout the cohort.

The top student award is given to help support their continued training and career development.

Congratulations to all program participants and scholarship recipients — your hard work and commitment are truly inspiring!



Ja Micheal Aubichion is from the Mosquito Grizzly Bear's Head, Lean Man First Nation. Ja received the top student award upon completion of the Security System Technician Program, a partnership with Seaspam and Electrical Joint Training Committee (EJTC) and ACCESS. Michael received the award because of his commitment and hard work throughout his program.

USF wishes him all the best in his future.

Kyle Peters, a proud member of the Lil'wat Nation and devoted father of six, is forging a bright future in the skilled trades. He recently completed the Metal Fabrication Foundations and Marine Fitter Level 1 program at BCIT, supported through funding from ACCESS.

Kyle's dedication and perseverance earned him the top student award, recognizing his outstanding commitment and academic performance throughout the program. With a long-term goal of opening his own fabrication shop, Kyle is taking confident steps toward a fulfilling career.

"This path is not only for me—it's for my children. I want them to see what's possible through education, hard work, and staying grounded in our culture and values. I am committed to making the most of this opportunity and will carry the values of this USF scholarship with pride and responsibility."

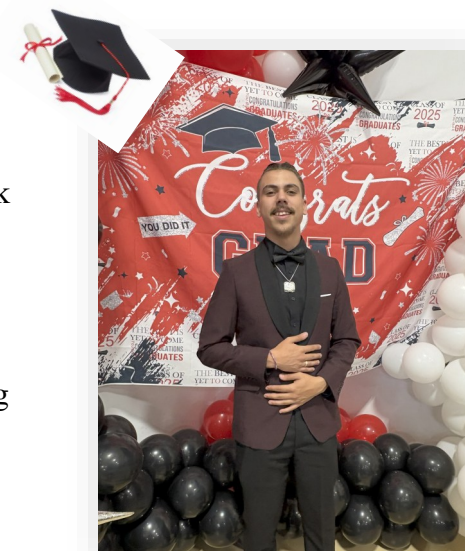


Leila Williams is Wet'suwet'en from the Wistet First Nation. She is the recipient of the Urban Spirit Foundation Scholarship. She completed her second year in Human Services and is now enrolled in the Bachelor of Social Work program at NVIT. Pictured with Leila is Kristen Wealick, USF Director of Development.

"I will continue to gain more experience in the social work field, and post-secondary education will enhance the current work experience I have and be able to better advocate for our Indigenous community."

Jayden Taggart graduated from Byrne Secondary High School in Burnaby. He is from Haidi Gwaii.

"To be chosen for this award means so much to me. I'd like to thank Urban Spirit Foundation for selecting me as their 2025 scholarship recipient. Being an Indigenous leadership student at Byrne Creek has opened my eyes to the possibility of staying connected to my ancestral roots in the city. In addition, working in peer tutoring further constructed my ability to work with youth. These are two big aspects in life that no money can pay for. With this scholarship money I hope I can become a Social Worker and continue helping the Indigenous youth in the lower mainland."



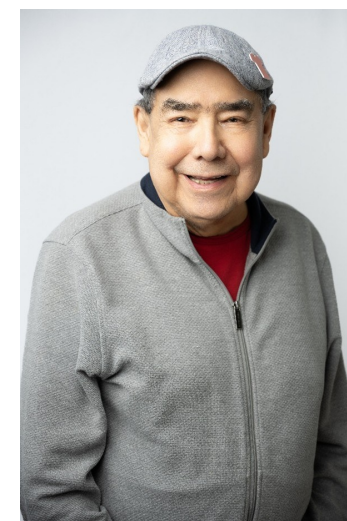
Stephen Goodfellow-Boomer, who is of Metis ancestry, graduated from Guildford Park Secondary.

"I am honoured to be the recipient of the Urban Spirit Foundation Scholarship in the amount of \$1,000.00. With this help I can pursue my passion for Technical Theatre at Capilano University. I am a grade 12 student who has remained on the honour roll throughout my senior years while volunteering with the City of Surrey and the Royal Canadian Theatre. I will be entering my first year of university where I will be pursuing my love for technical theatre. The Urban Spirit Foundation Scholarship has helped pay for my first year of university, which has alleviated my financial burden and allowed me to focus on my studies. Thank you!"



Thank you to our wonderful Urban Spirit Foundation Board of Directors. Thank you for your commitment to helping the Indigenous community. Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and thank you for your commitment to USF.

REMEMBERING LOU DEMERAIS



Lou Demerais
March 9, 1946 -
Oct 17, 2025

ACCESS and Urban Spirit Foundation deeply mourns the loss of long-term Board Member, Lou Demerais on October 17, 2025. For 15 years, Lou was a wise, insightful, and gentle leader on the Board and a resolute champion for ACCESS and Urban Spirit Foundation, always believing that youth was the future.

Lou's ancestry was Cree and Métis and his travels through life had an intentional focus on those who needed help and support. Lou contributed to many Indigenous organizations including Vancouver Native Health Society, Chair of the Vancouver Aboriginal Executive Council's health table, and a member of the UBC President's Advisory Committee on Aboriginal Affairs, chair of the health table for the Vancouver Aboriginal Executive Council.

Lou lived the ACCESS Vision by leading and participating in "an urban Indigenous community empowered through culture, wellness, achievement and self-sufficiency." May his spirit rest in peace and continue to guide us on this journey of healing and hope.