

















2024-2025 Annual Report



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Land Acknowledgment

We acknowledge and show gratitude that we are able to work and live on the traditional and unceded lands of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Sḵw̓xwú7mesh (Squamish), Stó:lo and Səl̓ílwətaʔ/Selilwitulh (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations, and that our work humbly extends to all First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Peoples across what we call British Columbia.

We make our commitment to continue on our path of learning and reconciliation and, where welcomed to do so, to work with communities to support undoing inequities that have harmed and continue to harm Indigenous Peoples across the stolen and colonized lands of Turtle Island, or what we now call Canada.

What is Public Health?

Public Health is Invisible... When it's Working

We interviewed several proud public health practitioners and experts, and what we heard time and time again was that no one knows public health exists when it's working well. Take, for example, our drinking water. When we wake up in the morning, wash our hands and brush our teeth, we don't think about the engineers, scientists, and infrastructure needed to maintain our water system and ensure we have access to clean drinking water. When do we notice this essential service? When there is something broken in that system, and we are inconvenienced by living under a boil water advisory.

A Community Approach to Wellness

While public health work often goes unnoticed, under-appreciated, and importantly, under-funded, the work is essential. It is the foundation on which good health is achieved. Public health considers entire communities, not just individuals, when finding solutions to reduce premature death and minimize effects of diseases. Those who work in the field of public health are concerned with the well-being of everyone, and take a One Health approach, working with partners in fields such as the economy, environmental studies, and government, to ensure that well-being is promoted in all aspects of life.

And what's more? It's the most cost-effective means of healthcare. Preventing an illness, or injury, is always cheaper than paying for costly treatment downstream.

Innovation at Work

When you donate to public health, you are supporting innovation. In order to innovate, to find solutions to healthcare problems, we must invest in testing, trials of new treatments, and prevention measures. Wastewater testing for unregulated drugs is a great example of innovation that has the potential to help prevent opioid overdose deaths and keep our communities safer. Another is the Test, Link, Call program, a cost-effective and innovative approach to support access to care and treatment for people at risk of diseases such as Hepatitis B virus (HBV), Hepatitis C virus (HCV), human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), and syphilis.

Finding Public Health in the Everyday

Public Health is connection. It is meeting the needs of our communities. It is being equipped with what you need to make good decisions for your health. It is seatbelts, helmets, life jackets, vaccinations, shelter, mental health supports, food security, legislation to reduce collisions on roads, and anything else you can think of that ensures our communities continue to thrive going forward.

Our donors are investing in solutions, well before a health crisis takes hold. Taking an upstream approach, and doing the work that is needed to prevent serious illness and injury, will pay dividends by ensuring a healthier, safer, and more equitable future.



Letter from our Board Chair



2024-2025 was another productive year for the Foundation as we moved to the third year of our strategic plan. The organization underwent some internal shifts, with the addition of a new CEO, Shellina Lakhdir, and welcoming new staff members. The (now more robust) team continues to work towards our purpose of a healthier, safer, and more equitable future for everyone in BC.

The Foundation advanced key partnerships, including one with Michael Smith Health Research BC, British Columbia's research agency. Through this partnership, we are jointly funding public health research projects that demonstrate impact, especially with Indigenous communities and in rural and remote areas, making improvements to population health outcomes.

As part of our commitment to raise the profile of public health, the team successfully launched a knowledge translation video series, "Public Health Is...", interviewing experts from all areas of public health about the public health system and how it impacts individuals and communities across BC. This content includes awareness building around the invisible nature of public health work, happening behind the scenes of our every day lives. We've seen growing interest in these public health concepts and have leveraged that in our other areas of work.

The Foundation supported over 33 projects in 2024-2025 that spanned a number of public health areas like disease prevention, youth mental health, pandemic recovery, and public health

innovation. Here are just a few project highlights: The SPEAK 3 survey helped us better understand British Columbians' general health status and well-being and will help us identify opportunities for continued post-pandemic recovery. The Hepatitis B Roadmap is going to create a comprehensive plan to eliminate viral hepatitis in BC by 2030, helping Canada meet the UN's goal of global elimination. The Ministry of Health foodborne illness project helped to determine why salmonella cases were rising nationwide, leading to a change in national food policy. The grants we provided of up to \$50,000 to schools, school districts, parent advisory councils, youth-led groups, and other youth-centered organizations on Vancouver Island are helping to improve youth mental health well-being and resiliency; and the asthma research — that found a link between unnecessary antibiotic exposure during infancy and asthma in infants — will help contribute to the global reversal of asthma and allergic disease.

We could not continue to support projects like these, that have measurable impacts on public health in the province, without the support of our donors and partners. Going forward, the Foundation will continue to champion public health as a cause, and make public health concepts accessible. With new leadership at the helm, we look forward to accomplishing even more in the future.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Douglas Nelson". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Douglas Nelson, Board Chair

Letter from our CEO



I joined Pacific Public Health Foundation as the Chief Executive Officer this past summer, taking over the reins from our Chief Operating Officer, Matthew Wright, who so graciously stepped in to support the team before I was brought on. This role has been an exciting new venture, bringing with it a lot of learning. Public health is vast, and I've been spending time learning about BC's public health system, and the role the Foundation plays in funding important public health initiatives.

What I've learned is that public health is invisible in many ways, but it is always working behind the scenes to keep our communities protected from illness and injury. It has been fascinating to learn that a large proportion of the increase in average lifespan in BC (i.e., average life expectancy increasing by 25 years - to 82.4 years - from 1900 to 2020) can be attributed to advances in public health, including immunization coverage rates, safer food and water, prevention and control of infectious diseases, improved maternal and infant health and other interventions.

Public health is the foundation of all of our lives, and our donors alongside government and non-government funding partners make good health possible in many ways.

Youth mental health has suffered greatly in the last few years, particularly after COVID-19. That's why we fund grants across the province to improve youth resiliency, mental wellness and belonging. New parents are navigating vaccine protocols for their children in a time of much misinformation, so we support vaccine effectiveness research through our partners at the BC Centre for Disease Control, to keep our communities protected, and to build and maintain public trust.

As BC's population ages, we support programs that study ways to help reduce the risk of falling in the elderly. Parents need help providing supplemental healthcare for their children in this time of economic uncertainty, so we provide vision exams and free glasses for kindergarteners in Okanagan schools.

British Columbians from equity-deserving populations continue to struggle accessing care, so we support our partners at Kílala Lelum, an Indigenous-led wellness hub in

Vancouver's Downtown Eastside, and programs like Test Link Call that provide access to care for those at risk of, or diagnosed with Sexually Transmitted and Blood-Borne Infections (STBBI) like hepatitis B and C.

I've learned that public health is all these things and so much more, and I am proud to lead an organization of passionate individuals that champion public health as a cause.

All this is possible due to our supporters, partners, and under the guidance of our dedicated Board of Directors, to create immediate and measurable health impacts that are felt in all corners of our beautiful province.

I hope as you read through the stories in this report, that you gain a greater understanding of the importance and impact of public health programs on the health of our communities, as I have in the past few months. A rising tide lifts all boats, and by investing in public health, our supporters are investing in healthier communities overall.

I look forward to meeting existing donors and partners, and bringing onboard a new wave of supporters to contribute to the ever-increasing public health needs of our province. My work as CEO has just begun, and with the wonderful team we already have in place, I know we will achieve great things, and change the public health landscape in BC for the better.

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Shellina". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Shellina Lakhdhir, CFRE, EMBA (Candidate) CEO

Priorities in Public Health

Preventing Salmonella Infections

The Foundation has a proud history of partnering with the Ministry of Health on a number of food safety and foodborne illness projects, including the study of salmonella infections.

Between 2008-2018, rates of salmonella infections in our province were increasing year after year. What was happening? Microbiologists and food safety specialists at the BCCDC employed whole genome sequencing — a research tool used to investigate foodborne outbreaks — examining cases at both a provincial and national level. Nationally, **it was established that breaded chicken products were a major contributor to the prevalence of a specific strain of salmonella known as Salmonella Enteritidis.** Through national foodborne outbreak investigations, it was discovered that many people who purchased breaded chicken products at the grocery store, such as nuggets or strips, assumed the items were pre-cooked. Unbeknownst to them, the chicken was raw and the assumption that they were “ready-to-eat” led to the undercooking of these chicken products, resulting in salmonella infections.

This research informed a change in national food safety policy, requiring breaded chicken manufacturers to apply clearer instructions and labelling to these processed foods to reduce the risks associated with salmonella infection. Food safety and genomics scientists at BCCDC continued work to identify salmonella hot spots along the food chain that contributed to ongoing infections in BC. They determined that while there has been significant investment in testing food products, there was much less known about the environment in which food is produced. **It became apparent that the entire process needed to be examined — from production (farm) to consumption (fork).**

By tracing the path of salmonella from farm-to-fork, this research shed light on critical aspects of food safety along the poultry processing chain, resulting in safer, reliable foods for Canadian families to eat.

Reducing Asthma in Children

Asthma is the number one chronic disease of childhood, the third most common chronic disease in Canada, and it disproportionately affects younger children. What if we could do something to prevent asthma from developing in the first place?

Prompted by evidence that in recent years, both antibiotic use and instances of asthma were decreasing in babies and children, Dr David Patrick, lead for antimicrobial resistance at BCCDC, and his team of researchers led by Hannah Lishman, Senior Scientist, Community Antimicrobial Stewardship, began investigating this connection, pulling administrative health data from 2001-2018 in BC and Manitoba. **This research found a significantly elevated risk of asthma and allergic diseases in children exposed to antibiotics in infancy in both provinces, after accounting for many other early life factors.** These findings showed that antibiotics most likely caused the problem by disrupting development of a healthy microbiome — the healthy bacteria in the infant’s developing gut — which affects predisposition towards allergic responses, like asthma. Thanks to our partner TB Vets Charitable Foundation, this research has been published in *Frontiers in Allergy*, and additional materials are being produced to share these key findings more widely.

With these findings being shared, we hope that over time, there will be less unnecessary antibiotic use in infancy, the promotion of breastfeeding when possible, and consequently, fewer children suffering from asthma. **This will improve the well-being of millions of children worldwide, and ease the financial burden of treatment-related costs on families and the healthcare system.** This project is proactive, demonstrating the benefit of investing in public health, and by focusing upstream on root causes, we collectively save time and resources, and better protect community health and resiliency.

“The asthma folks did a double-take and said, ‘Well, wait a minute. Asthma is coming down too, especially in kids.’ And this raised the question for us as to whether these things [asthma and antibiotics] were connected.”
— Dr David Patrick

Supporting Indigenous Communities in the Downtown Eastside

Kílala Lelum Health and Wellness Cooperative is a community-based health organization that provides Elder-guided, culturally safe, trauma and violence-informed care in the Downtown Eastside (DTES) of Vancouver. It uses a wholistic, patient-centred model of care that fosters health equity and physical, emotional, mental, and spiritual wellness.

Kílala Lelum has been open since 2019 and serves over 2,000 members, offering various programs and services, including primary care, social work, mental health counselling, cultural and food security programming, outreach, and chronic pain management. **Central to this work are Elders and Knowledge Holders who support members in affirming and reclaiming their cultural identity** alongside opportunities to engage with Indigenous teachings, traditional medicines, and Sharing Circles.

Thanks to support from our generous donor Julie Glover, the Foundation provided some of the funding to Kílala Lelum to expand on their important work with the opening of a new wellness and resource hub, Doris Fox Lelum. This hub will provide low-barrier access to cultural, medical, and harm reduction services for Indigenous people who use drugs (IPWUD) and Kílala Lelum members living with Opioid Use Disorder (OUD). The hub aims to reduce harm by providing accessible drop-in programming and services in a less medical setting. The team hopes to provide clinical services like nursing, peer support, and systems navigation, as well as opportunities to connect with Elders, Knowledge Holders, cultural programming, and the Social Navigation team. It will be staffed by people with lived/living experience of substance use (peers), healthcare workers, counsellors, Elders and Knowledge Holders. This work honours the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's call to action 22, which calls upon those who can effect change to recognize the value of Indigenous healing practices and use them in the treatment of Indigenous patients, in collaboration with healers and Elders. **Our Foundation recognizes that we are in a privileged position to effect change, and we are proud to support programs that centre around Elder support and Indigenous healing.**

Kílala Lelum staff Rory Marck, Mathew Fleury, and Elder Bruce stand outside Doris Fox Lelum.



Working Upstream

What if we could prevent illnesses and injuries before they occur? That perspective on public health solutions is “working upstream,” preventing health problems from occurring at the source. Upstream has become a key analogy for how we must think about health. It encourages a focus on prevention, health promotion, protecting people, creating environments that foster good health, and importantly, addressing social injustice, inequities, and the determinants of health. From building trust with Indigenous Peoples, to addressing the negative impacts of the climate crisis on equity-deserving populations, and making our roads safer, thinking upstream is fundamental to our work.

Here are just a few examples of our upstream-centred work:

Ensuring Vaccine Effectiveness

Vaccines are a great example of upstream public health interventions — providing protection before an illness or disease takes place, not only preventing human suffering, but allowing for significant cost savings to the healthcare system by preventing costly hospitalizations and treatment. **Vaccines are safe and effective.** We know this because they are continually monitored, not only to maintain the public trust, but to ensure that we are all armed with the evidence-based information needed to make informed choices about our health.

The Foundation proudly funds vaccine effectiveness research, led by the BCCDC’s Dr Danuta Skowronski, that informs influenza, COVID-19 and Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) immunization programs in BC. **This continued research and monitoring has resulted in many significant milestones, including COVID-19 vaccine dosing and duration recommendations, and seasonal influenza vaccine effectiveness research conducted each year that is submitted to the World Health Organization (WHO) by Dr Skowronski’s team, alongside 25 other countries as part of the Global Influenza Vaccine Effectiveness (GIVE) network, to inform vaccine strain selection for the coming 2025-2026 season.**

Helping Eliminate Viral Hepatitis

Hepatitis C Virus (HCV) remains one of the most serious infectious diseases in Canada, responsible for more life-years lost than any other infectious disease. Despite the availability of highly effective treatment — with over 95% of those who complete therapy being cured — approximately 18,000 people in BC are living with untreated HCV. Without treatment, 30% of chronic HCV cases will develop cirrhosis, and 10% of these will progress to end-stage liver disease or liver cancer. Without treatment, many people with chronic Hepatitis B virus (HBV) or HCV infection will end up needing a costly liver transplant, or lose their life while waiting for one.

This is why the Foundation has taken a leadership role in funding crucial work that aims to eliminate HBV and HCV as public health threats in Canada by 2030 — a commitment made as part of the WHO’s World Health Assembly in 2016. The Global Viral Hepatitis Strategy (2022-2030) recently renewed this commitment for 194 member states, including Canada.

The BC Viral Hepatitis Elimination Roadmap consultation is being led by Dr Sofia Bartlett, Interim Scientific Director of Clinical Prevention Services at the BCCDC, and Deb Schmitz, Executive Director of the BC Hepatitis Network, with funding support from the BC Ministry of Health, the Canadian Network on Hepatitis C, and the Foundation. Together, they are conducting a series of province-wide consultations and engagements, including those with lived experience, community organizations, healthcare providers, academics, advocates, and Indigenous groups, to identify what is needed to move toward a BC free from viral hepatitis.

Understanding the Health and Well-Being of Communities Across BC

Over the last few years, we have been so proud to fund — with the support of our donors — the vital British Columbia Surveys on Population Experiences, Action, and Knowledge (SPEAK), to support the research into the impacts of the pandemic, so we are better equipped to help our communities in the event of another public health emergency.

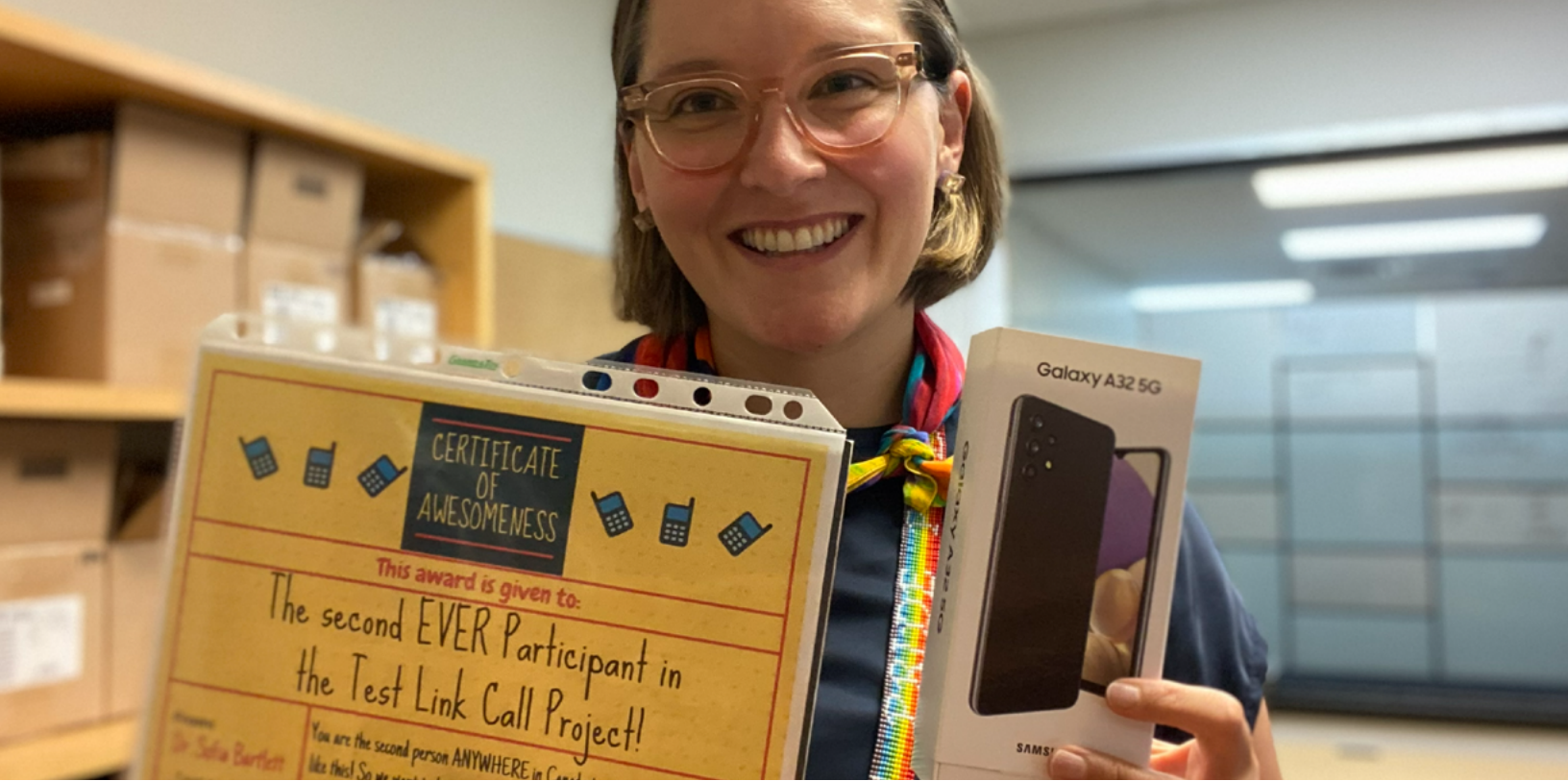
Available in seven languages and developed in collaboration with BC's regional health authorities, the First Nations Health Authority, Métis Nation BC, the BCCDC, the Office of the Provincial Health Officer, and the Ministry of Health, the aim of this survey is to better understand British Columbians' general health status and well-being. This third and final round of the survey, SPEAK 3, had close to 90,000 people sharing their thoughts and experiences which will be used to help identify opportunities for transition, innovation, and adaptation during post-pandemic recovery.

Findings from SPEAK 3 shed light on pandemic impacts on children, young adults, and adults. The results demonstrate that **young adults continue to experience high levels of stress, difficulties accessing healthcare and mental health services when needed, and have a weaker sense of community belonging.** That said, more young adults reported improvements in their mental health over the previous year compared to earlier surveys.

This critical work would not have happened without our incredible community of donors and partners. **The results of these surveys will help us strengthen public health during the continued work of pandemic recovery,** so that it will be better equipped and able to respond to current and emerging threats to our health, keep people safe, promote positive well-being, advance equity, and foster healthier communities.

“The BC SPEAK surveys have been instrumental to help us understand the health and well-being of people throughout B.C. since 2020. Findings from round three highlight ongoing impacts of the pandemic to key health outcomes, such as mental health, as well as considerable inequities across the province. This data will help us support you and your community to promote health and improve the health programs and services offered to British Columbians.”

— Dr Geoff McKee, Medical Director, Population and Public Health, BCCDC



Dr Sofia Bartlett

Improving Access to Care

This may be hard to imagine, but many people in BC do not have regular access to a cellphone or the internet. Although this may seem like just an inconvenience, it really means the inability to connect to the world around us. Imagine facing an illness, or a potentially life-changing diagnosis, knowing that without treatment, there would be severe consequences to your health. What if you didn't have a cellphone? Would you be able to navigate our complex healthcare system? How would you make doctor's appointments, call in medication requests to the pharmacy, or even access your results via digital health sites, like so many of us do? This is a reality for many people in BC, particularly those who have experienced criminalization, or unstable housing, and at risk for, or diagnosed with Hepatitis C virus (HCV), Hepatitis B virus (HBV), Human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), or complications from syphilis infection.

This reality is why we have been so proud to support *Test, Link, Call*, since its inception in 2021, and are sincerely grateful to donors such as TD

Bank Group for their multi-year funding of this initiative. This program provides cellphones and a six-month phone plan to equity-deserving people in our province. Beyond the benefits of connecting to care, the value of having a cellphone quickly became clear. From being able to reconnect with loved ones, to having a stable means of communication when applying for benefits, housing, and employment, to having access to 911 and emergency services, these cellphones have provided a lifeline to clients, in more ways than one. And all at a fraction of the cost it would take to support these individuals if they weren't able to access health and social services — this initiative is fiscally responsible, compassionate, and caring.

"I go in once a week now to this doctor in New West and I just got finally approved to start the cure, that's different for me because any other time I would make an appointment and never show up."

— a Test, Link, Call participant

Societal Consequences of the Pandemic

Supporting Youth Mental Health and Well-Being: Island Health Resilience and Safety Grants

Collaboration and partnership can transform the health of individuals and communities. To expand collaborative opportunities, the Foundation partnered with Island Health to provide youth resilience grants to launch new and innovative projects/programs in communities across the Island Health region.

These grants provide the opportunity for schools, school districts, parent advisory councils, youth-led groups, and other youth-centered organizations to apply for one-time funding to improve resilience among youth up to age 19. Grants were awarded to organizations who emphasized connections to one or more stable and supporting adults, belonging to a broadly defined family, community or school, connection to culture, sense of autonomy, competence, purpose, or social and emotional learning and skills.

Helping to Reduce Operational Stress and Burnout for Physicians in BC: Public Health and Preventive Medicine (PHPM) Peer Support Program

As we saw from the results of the SPEAK (page 8) surveys, the mental health of British Columbians has suffered since the pandemic. But how can we improve mental health in our communities if the doctors who provide mental health support are also suffering? This is why we chose to fund a program that takes an upstream approach to mental health support for physicians in our province.

The PHPM Peer Support Program provides confidential, non-clinical emotional support to public health and preventive medicine physicians in BC. This initiative responds to a longstanding gap in support for PHPM physicians, who often work in isolated roles without access to the structures and funding available to facility-based medical staff. These physicians regularly manage public health emergencies and complex system-level issues, which can result in high levels of occupational stress.

The PHPM Peer Support Program matches physicians with trained peer supporters — colleagues who understand the unique pressures of PHPM work — for up to three 1:1 support sessions. It also fosters informal support and peer connection through training, regular meetings, newsletters, and conference outreach. This program promotes physician wellness through early support and prevention, rather than crisis response. It improves coping skills, reduces isolation, and builds a culture where seeking help is normalized. More than 80 PHPM physicians in BC have access to the program.

By investing in physician well-being, our donors are strengthening our broader public health system, ensuring physicians have the tools they need to stay healthy, in order to take care of others.

Supporting Indigenous Representation in STEM fields

Actively supporting the needs of a diverse population requires appropriate representation in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) roles, to create better programs and outcomes for all. In order to increase Indigenous representation in STEM fields — which is disproportionately low due to the ongoing impacts of colonialism — the International Collaboration on Repair Discoveries (ICORD) within the UBC Faculty of Medicine, and the Vancouver Coastal Health Research Institute (VCHRI) created the seed2STEM summer research program for Indigenous youth in 2018.


The Foundation joined this initiative in 2024, with pilot funding for some fresh new faces in the BCCDC’s microbiology labs last summer, who studied some of this province’s most complex public health issues.

Through seed2STEM, British Columbia-based Indigenous high school students from grades 9-12 apply for paid, six-week summer research internships with partnering organizations.

They are mentored by their program leaders, listen to guest speakers, and are given the opportunity to visit scientific and cultural places of interest. At the end of the program, students present their work to friends, family, and members of the research community. Beginning with just one student in 2018, this unique program has since expanded to include 60 students in 2024. BCCDC hosted four interns, who worked on different research projects.

The research projects completed at the BCCDC had a positive impact not only on the interns, but on communities across the province. From advancing water testing for remote communities to creating easier methods for diagnosing infectious diseases, these projects were designed to both educate and contribute to the health and wellness of BC residents.

We are proud to continue to fund this work with our new funding partner, Acuitas Therapeutics (see page 12), supporting this program for many summers to come!



INTRODUCTION

PPE became an important part of everyday life during the pandemic. Everybody had to use it every day. Even though many people no longer use it in their daily lives, the effectiveness of PPE has become a lot more significant. In this lab I tested the effectiveness of masks using two methods: Synthetic Blood and NaCl Filtration testing. These tests measure the filtration and protective abilities of the face masks by mimicking situations and conditions that someone wearing a mask could possibly face or create. People like surgeons, nurses, doctors, or ill people wear masks for hours at a time – How does this wear affect the protective properties of the mask?

	Control
Synthetic Blood Test	Pass (32/32)
NaCl Filtration Test	Pass (10/10)

CONCLUSION

The test results showed a high amount of effectiveness. The results showed that the masks were able to filter out synthetic blood and NaCl. This is a great result for the time taken to perform the test. The results were consistent across all the masks tested. This is a great result for the time taken to perform the test. The results were consistent across all the masks tested.

“This is a memory I won’t forget being a part of. Working in a building and having your official badge. You can scan yourself in and go get coffee in the morning.”

- seed2STEM Summer Intern

Donor Spotlight Acuitas Therapeutics



BCCDC and PPHF staff visit Acuitas Therapeutics offices with seed2STEM students.

Acuitas Therapeutics' mission is to advance human health through innovation. We are very grateful to them for sponsoring the seed2STEM summer research program for Indigenous youth (Page 11). In the spirit of true partnership, they even invited the students on a tour of their lab, where they create best-in-class lipid nanoparticle (LNP) delivery systems. Their LNP technology enables the COVID-19 vaccine COMIRNATY®, which has protected billions of people in more than 180 countries worldwide, and was crucial in the delivery of COVID-19 vaccines during the pandemic.

Their employees shared advice on STEM careers with the interns, telling them that not only can they be successful in their careers, but their work can also help solve real-world public health

problems, like the need for vaccines for new and emerging illnesses.

Providing Indigenous students with the opportunity to experience what a career in STEM looks like is a powerful way to encourage diversity and inclusion in public health fields. Including those with a unique perspective and voice who will only make our public health system stronger. We thank Acuitas Therapeutics for encouraging these students to envision themselves as public health leaders of the future.



Partner Spotlight

Michael Smith Health Research BC

This year, we further enhanced our partnership with Michael Smith Health Research BC (Health Research BC), British Columbia's research agency. Through this partnership, we are jointly funding public health projects that demonstrate impacts on practice, programs, service, decision-making, or policy, especially with Indigenous communities and/or in rural and remote areas, making improvements to population health outcomes. The goal of this work is to support research that improves health, and positively impacts the healthcare system. As part of this enhanced partnership, we co-funded select 2024 Convening & Collaborating Program(C²) grants, awarding grants to researchers, trainees and those who use research to engage with each other on priority themes such as population aging, climate change and health, the health human resources crisis, and public health emergencies. We also co-funded select 2024 Reach Program grants, awarding grants to researchers to help promote knowledge translation (KT) activities, allowing them to share their research evidence, "extending the reach" of their important work.

We are grateful to Health Research BC for their ongoing support and look forward to continuing to support the health research landscape in BC together!



Michael Smith
**Health
Research BC**

Some Grant Recipients Include:

Dr Anurag Singh

Co-creating a research roadmap for an innovative virtual health delivery model to recruit and retain health workforce in rural, remote, and Indigenous communities

Dr Kimberly Thomson

Identifying research priorities to support the evaluation of "upstream" health promotion initiatives in British Columbia

Dr Kaylee Byers

"A Day in the Life of a Longhauler": Using Photography as a Tool for Long COVID Awareness

Dr Jonathan Little

From Social Media Advertisement to Type 2 Diabetes Remission: Harnessing Innovative Social Media Strategies to Make Remission Possible in British Columbia

Thank You to our Donors

Thank you to all the donors who thoughtfully support the Foundation. Your dedication to the health of communities across BC is the reason why we are able to champion such impactful public health initiatives. We hope you are proud of what your investment is doing — providing support to the many important projects you have read about here. **You are changing and saving lives today, while helping to improve health and wellness for future generations.** We are so grateful to you for your commitment to transforming public health.

We gratefully acknowledge all our donors including our “Friends” who give monthly, support us with gifts under \$1,000, or who give anonymously.

Changemakers

\$100,000 - \$250,000

TD Bank Group

Leaders

\$50,000 - \$100,000

Acuitas Therapeutics

Provincial Health Services Authority (PHSA)

Allies

\$10,000 - \$50,000

AbbVie Canada Corp.

Julie Glover

Johnson & Johnson Innovative Medicine

Douglas Nelson and Allyson Haug

Pacific Blue Cross Health Foundation

Pfizer Canada Inc.

Sanofi Pasteur Limited

TB Vets Charitable Foundation

Ambassadors

\$1,000 - \$10,000

Leith Wheeler Investment Counsel

We recognize with gratitude the completion of the first year of a generous 3-year pledge from Acuitas Therapeutics in support of the seed2STEM program. Learn more about seed2STEM on page 11.



Thank You to Our Partners

Thank you to our partners across all areas of public health, who continue to offer advice and support to the Foundation. We know that strong partnerships create more reach and greater change, and your commitment to our purpose allows us to drive innovative research, practice, and policy solutions that have a real impact on communities in our province.

A Special Thanks to Some of Our Key Partners



Ministry of Health



BC Centre for Disease Control
Provincial Health Services Authority



Provincial Health Services Authority



Michael Smith Health Research BC



fraserhealth



northern health
the northern way of caring



Interior Health



island health



PIPPS
Pacific Institute on Pathogens,
Pandemics and Society



SIMON FRASER
UNIVERSITY

Vancouver Coastal Health



THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
Centre for Disease Control

mitacs

Please visit pacificpublichealth.ca/partners for a full list of our partners.

Financials

This year we proudly invested over \$2.1M into public health initiatives and actioned 31 projects, some of which are highlighted in this report. We underwent a leadership change, added to our team, and launched new campaigns and

fundraising projects. This growth allows for even more reach and the ability to advance equity, community resiliency, and measurable population health outcomes.

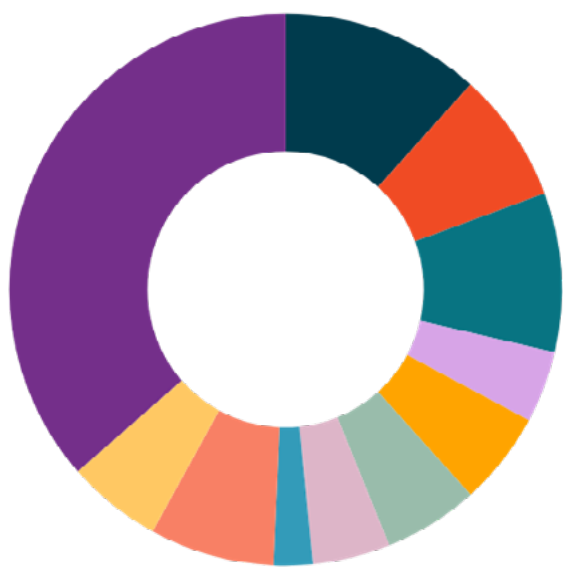
Statement of Financial Position

	2024/25	2023/24
Assets	\$10,064,025	\$11,953,747
Liabilities	\$1,819,115	\$4,841,209
Deferred Contributions	\$9,572,502	\$11,580,440
Unrestricted Net Assets	\$491,523	\$373,307

Statement of Operations

	2024/25	2023/24
Total Revenue	\$3,566,755	\$2,256,140
Project Expenses	\$2,194,854	\$1,053,683
Operating Expenses	\$1,253,685	\$1,077,423
	\$118,216	\$125,034

Investments in Public Health



	Amount	%
Pandemic Response and Recovery	\$256,155	<u>12%</u>
Indigenous Health Promotion	\$168,180	<u>8%</u>
Advancing Priorities for Equity-Deserving Groups	\$204,575	<u>9%</u>
Impacts of the Climate Crisis	\$92,197	<u>4%</u>
Youth Mental Health	\$120,000	<u>5%</u>
Increasing Immunization	\$121,936	<u>6%</u>
Co-Funding Partnerships	\$99,770	<u>5%</u>
Improving Food Safety	\$50,000	<u>2%</u>
Injury Prevention	\$160,063	<u>7%</u>
Education and Training	\$121,979	<u>6%</u>
Knowledge Translation	\$800,000	<u>36%</u>
	\$2,194,854	100%

Thank You to our Board of Directors and Advisors

We would like to thank our Board of Directors and Advisors that contribute so greatly to the success of our organization. These accomplished volunteers dedicate their time because they believe in our cause and support our work. We are accomplishing great things, together.



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and Finance Audit
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