



# uniti

## UNITI PARTNERS ANNUAL REPORT 2021/22

Hello,  
Opportunities!

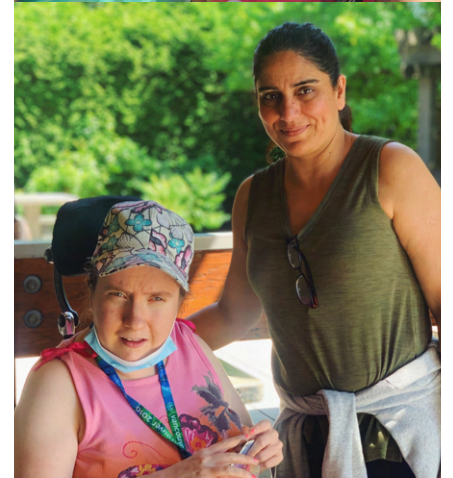
- Summer student success
- Cool careers

**Have a story to tell ?**

Read on to see the UNITI program that connects you to a coach.

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>03</b>	Report Introduction
<b>04</b>	Message from UNITI's Board Chairs
<b>05</b>	Message from UNITI CEO
<b>06</b>	UNITI Finances
<b>07</b>	Looking In: Shawn Ostheimer
<b>08</b>	TEDxSurrey 2022
<b>09</b>	Looking In: Enna Guzman
<b>10</b>	Student Opportunities
<b>11</b>	Looking In: Marjorie Cenezero
<b>12</b>	Projects & Grants
<b>14</b>	How UNITI is Getting Better
<b>15</b>	Affordable & Inclusive Housing
<b>16</b>	Inclusive Employers
<b>17</b>	Looking In: Logan & Tegan
<b>18</b>	Ends Consultation
<b>20</b>	Reflecting & Moving Forward
<b>21</b>	Join Our Team
<b>22</b>	Appreciation & Retirement
<b>23</b>	Report Conclusion
<b>24</b>	What's Next



# REPORT INTRODUCTION

## Land Acknowledgement

Hello, my name is Amber, myself and my family are Métis, Cree and Ojibwe. I am coming to you from the treated territories of the Tsawwassen First Nations, and the unceded territories of the Coast Salish peoples, including the Semiahmoo, Kwantlen and Katzie people.

Learning about the truth and history of the Indigenous communities and unlearning deep rooted and hurtful ideologies, is a step forward in our reconciliation. Greater understanding helps push us in the right direction, towards systematic change. I am proud to be part of an organization that is working towards doing better and values reconciliation.



## UNITI is the Partnership of 3 Organizations



Semiahmoo House Society (SHS) provides quality services and supports to people with disabilities and their families in Surrey and White Rock.



Peninsula Estates Housing Society (PEHS) provides affordable and inclusive housing that reflects the diversity of our community.



The Semiahmoo Foundation (TSF) ensures that UNITI has the recognition, relationships, and resources to support an inclusive community.



## Highlights

**A**

See what student opportunities UNITI has to offer and hear from fourth year summer student Cat Grimme about their experience working at UNITI.

**B**

Find out what UNITI is doing to help the inclusion of youth with disabilities in a project generously funded by the Vancouver Foundation.

**C**

Looking for meaningful work? UNITI is always looking for people who care about inclusion for all people and want to move the disability movement forward.

# MESSAGES FROM UNITI'S BOARD CHAIRS

**Bea Hadikin**

Chair of SHS



An organization like UNITI does not exist in a bubble. We are part of the greater community. For integration to be authentic, there is a healthy exchange of ideas, shared understanding, and sometimes uncomfortable shifts in thinking. This is how we make real and lasting change. Without exception, I see commitment and professionalism from the staff at UNITI. I feel exceedingly proud and inspired to observe staff and people we support doing great things and serving as leaders in the organization and outside; they are influencing change.

**Ian Jarvis**

Chair of PEHS



As a not for profit agency, our decisions are made in the best interest of our community. The existence of affordable housing is one of the blocks of a healthy community. PEHS has the opportunity and expertise to create inclusive communities. The combination of three entities that make up UNITI demonstrates that *together we're stronger*. We operate exceptional programs, we have financial strength, fundraising capabilities and the icing on the cake is that we have owned and managed rental properties for decades. I am looking forward to creating homes that are so desperately needed.

**Colleen McGeoff-Dean**

Chair of TSF



As a board member and chair of TSF, I have seen the impact that grants and donations can make on the lives of those UNITI serves. In addition, it is essential that UNITI participates in community events such as TEDxSurrey. UNITI, and those they support, are an integral part of the fabric of the community. UNITI is committed to creating an inclusive community for all, and TSF plays an important role in that commitment. I am honoured to serve on the Board of UNITI and contribute to the exciting and important work they do to provide services and opportunities.



# MESSAGE FROM UNITI CEO



## Doug Tennant CEO of UNITI

UNITI continued to provide quality supports and services during the second year of the COVID-19 Pandemic. We worked with our community—people we support, their support networks, home share providers, staff members, employers, and other partners—to keep people safe while also supporting their right to be included in the activities other British Columbians were involved with. While the pandemic has been a difficult time for all of us, it also allowed for opportunities for UNITI to partner with other organizations and businesses in creative ways. We see our relationship with our community as a reciprocal one, where we support others as they support us.

This has been especially important as during the pandemic we were also working hard to build inclusive and affordable housing for people in desperate need in Surrey and White Rock. And, boy, did our community support us! Our Harmony Apartment project was the most supported affordable housing project in BC's history and we thank all the thousands of local businesses, community organizations, and individuals who spoke up in support of Harmony. UNITI is coming back strong with the support of our community. We are advocating for a Surrey where all people are valued and belong and a Surrey where Harmony will be supported and built. Bring it on!

"UNITI is coming back strong, and with the support of our community, we are advocating for a Surrey where all people are valued and belong."

# UNITI FINANCES

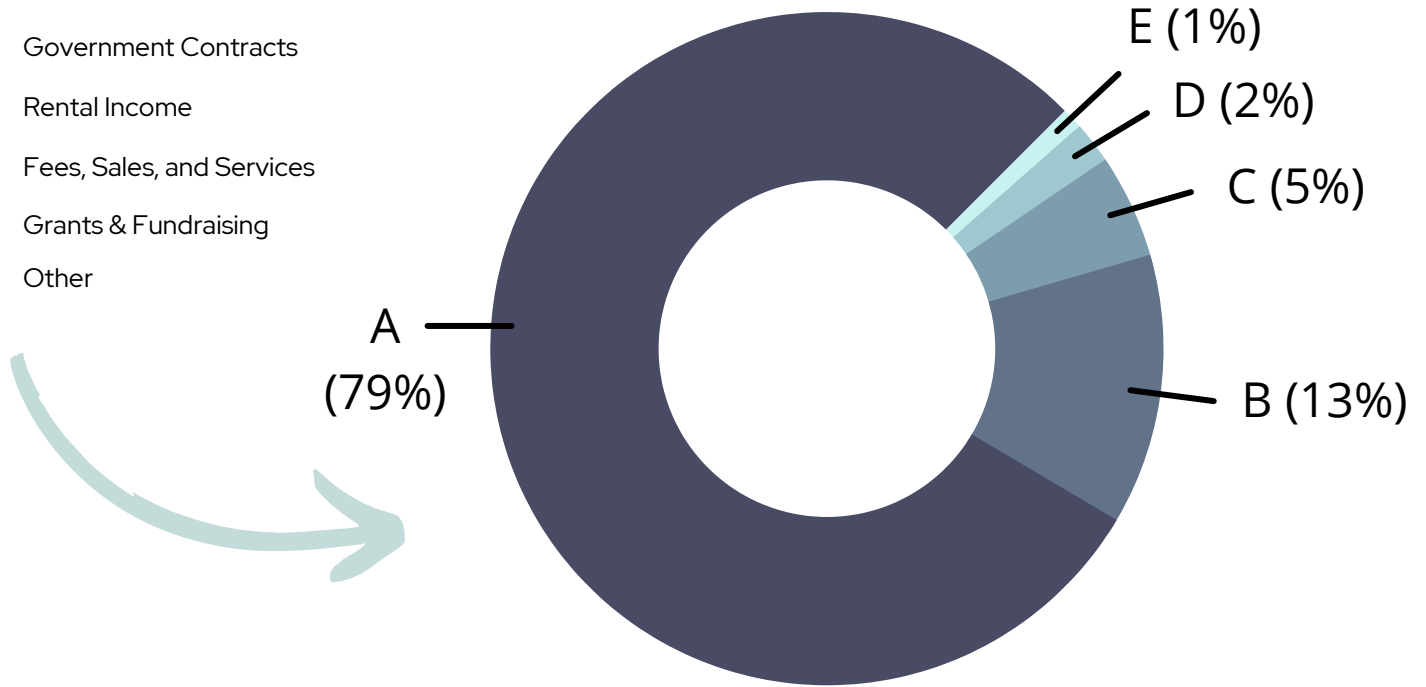
## UNITI Funding Overview

### Funding Sources

UNITI has 4 primary sources of funding which are seen below. 'Other' is comprised of varying sources.

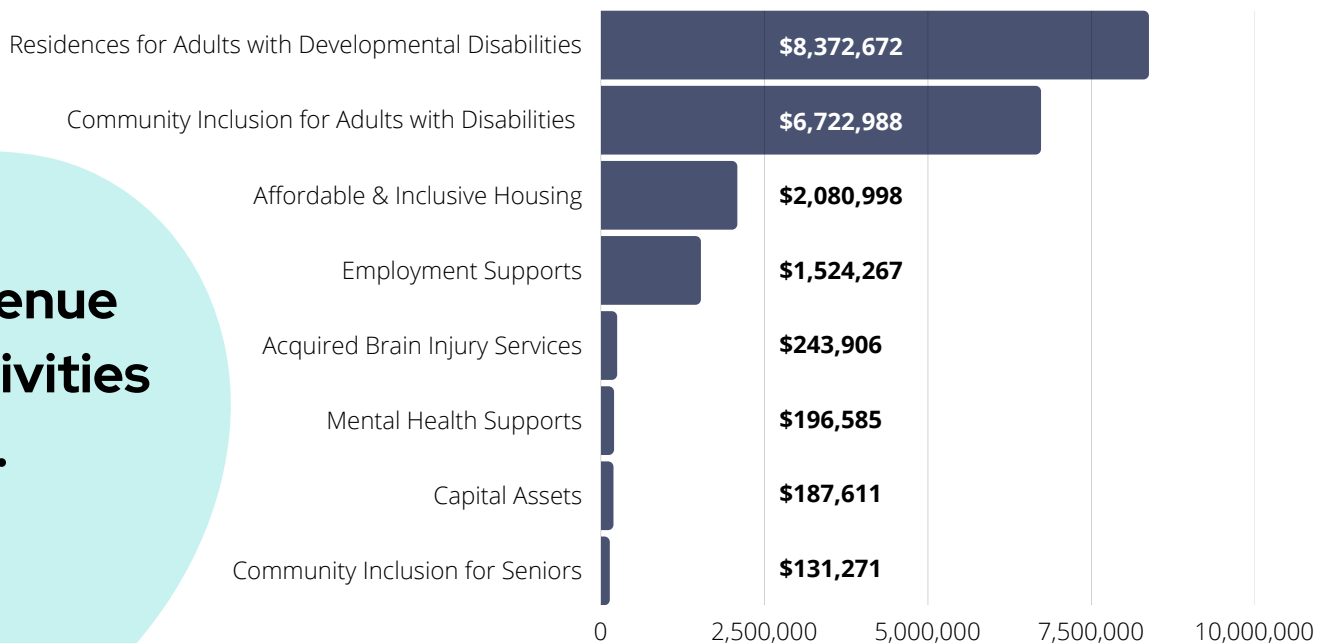
- A ■ Government Contracts
- B ■ Rental Income
- C ■ Fees, Sales, and Services
- D ■ Grants & Fundraising
- E ■ Other

UNITI has varied funding sources which all come together to support the mission of UNITI, to build healthy and inclusive communities!



### Funding for UNITI Programs and Services

**Total revenue for all activities is \$19.4M.**



# LOOKING IN: Hearing from Donor Shawn Ostheimer

## Meet Shawn



"UNITI's biggest strength is its local footprint and that it's **multifaceted**; with the housing, its day programs and its ability to support a big part of the community. "

- Shawn Ostheimer

### The Answer Company

Shawn is a hard-working **father of two and founder of the Answer Company**. Shawn and his family have been in South Surrey for over 15 years and have created a national company which helps provide local business software.

### Impact & Connection

Shawn is a part of UNITI through his son, Sam, who has a disability. Sam first started using UNITI services through the day and summer services. Sam enjoys attending Friday Night Flix, where he can spend time with his friends. More recently, Shawn and Sam have been more involved with UNITI in planning for Sam's future through our HomeShare services. Being at UNITI has impacted Shawn and his family; **"having somewhere Sam can go and is comfortable, accepted and accommodated: that's what every parent wants for their kid"**.

### The Power of Community

Being involved with and **supporting places that enrich the community** is an important concept for Shawn. Shawn states, "I tend to look for organizations that are smaller and more focused so that those donated dollars are going to a more specific measure". Through donating, he isn't only contributing to an organization that benefits his son, but also the greater community. "It's nice to have a community for Sam. We've always hoped UNITI would be a part of that future for him", recalls Shawn. It is through people like Shawn and Sam that UNITI can achieve its mission for an inclusive community for all.

# TEDxSurrey 2022



**Alan Warburton**  
*Curator TEDxSurrey*

“  
TEDxSurrey is extremely grateful for the **outstanding support** provided by UNITI and we look forward to an ongoing positive relationship.  
”

## What is TEDxSurrey?

**TEDxSurrey is a non-profit organization that is run entirely by volunteers** and with the support of partners in the community. TEDxSurrey recently completed its fourth annual TEDx event at the Bell Performing Arts Centre with a dynamic program including 12 inspiring speakers.

The TEDxSurrey team is riding the momentum from the highly successful past events and are moving forward with the goal of being the premier TEDx event in western Canada. With 12 riveting talks, each bursting with a dazzling idea that will challenge and change you, TEDxSurrey believes in the power of ideas.

## UNITI & TEDxSurrey

This year, UNITI was proud to be a Platinum Sponsor for the 2022 TEDxSurrey event. UNITI has an ongoing relationship and has been involved with TEDxSurrey through many ways over the past few years, but this year took a more involved role.

UNITI's Development & Project Coordinator, Liz Tichelman, had the honour of being on the TEDxSurrey Marketing Team. Liz said the experience was "impactful" and thinks "UNITI and TEDxSurrey make a great pair as they **share many of the same values and goals**". With the major success of the 2022 event, UNITI is looking forward to many more.





# LOOKING IN: **Surrey SHARES**

## Hearing from Enna Guzman

Scan this QR code  
to learn more  
about the program!



“ Writing my story made me aware of my responsibilities and what I’m capable of doing. ”

## Meet Enna

UNITI's Surrey SHARES is a **free program** that connects Surrey residents through Storytelling. The program involves goal planning with a life coach, and guidance in story development with a story-telling coach. At the end of the program, participants stories are recorded and shared with the community.

Enna's story "*Dandelions Bring Colour and Lessons to My Life*", is a thought-provoking story about beauty, responsibilities and same-ness. Through the Surrey SHARES program, Enna says she was able to "learn more" about herself and "appreciate" herself more.

Looking to explore your dreams? Looking for something fun to do? Check out UNITI's Surrey SHARES program!



Surrey Intercultural Seniors **SOCIAL INCLUSION** Partnership (SISSIP) Network

Working together to create greater awareness, appreciation & acceptance of different cultures to make Surrey an intercultural & socially inclusive community for seniors 55+



Funded in part by the  
Government of Canada's  
New Horizons for Seniors Program



# LOOKING IN: STUDENT OPPORTUNITIES



"Cat has been an invaluable member of the team. They have helped shape UNITI into a more progressive organization that now reaches new successes."

- **Jillian Glennie**  
*Director of Development*

## Meet Cat Grimme



## Journey Through UNITI

Cat started with UNITI in 2020 as a Summer Student at UNITI's Acquired Brain Injury Services (ABIS). Working four days a week at ABIS, Cat supported day-to-day activities. Once a week, Cat was at UNITI's South Campus location, where they worked on a video project with UNITI partner, the Self-Advocates of Semiahmoo. Working out of different locations, Cat was able to be involved in many areas at UNITI.

Returning in 2021, Cat worked as a Summer Student for The Semiahmoo Foundation following their connection with the video project completed in 2020. Here, Cat planned a UNITI Fashion Show, UNITI's Annual Picnic that was held virtually, supported the Community Development Committee, and organized and hosted UNITI's first 'Pride Panel', as well as supported The Semiahmoo Foundation with some grant projects.

## The 'R' Word Video

When asked about their favourite project they have been a part of, Cat said "definitely working on the 'R' Word Video with SAS, it's really what **started everything** here for me and got me connected to the organization".

Through this project, Cat stated "I was able to take things I learned in school and **apply them in a way I didn't know I could** in this industry". This video was created to address the effects of harmful language, specifically within the disability movement.

## Inclusive Workplaces

"I discovered a passion for working in an inclusive organization; the **connections I have made here will last me a life time**" said Cat.

Attending the University of Toronto, studying Cinema Studies and Diaspora and Transnational Studies, Cat has been able to use their time at UNITI to help them "become more confident working within a professional space". Cat says "being a summer student at UNITI is the **perfect combination of fulfilling work and having fun**, which is why I've come back all these years! I would highly recommend that anyone who is interested in furthering their professional career and expanding their knowledge and understanding within an inclusive space should be a summer student."

Want to see the  
video?



SCAN HERE

If you are interested in learning more about student opportunities here at UNITI, get in touch! [recruit@uniti4all.com](mailto:recruit@uniti4all.com)

# LOOKING IN: Hearing from Community Support Worker Marjorie Cenezero

## Meet Marjorie



### Up-Close with a Community Support Worker

Marjorie started with UNITI in 2019 and has been with the organization for three years, beginning as a practicum student from Douglas College and now working as a Community Support Worker (CSW).

Marjorie is now actively involved with the Community Development Committee, the Self-Advocates of Semiahmoo and SurreySHARES. Marjorie says the culture here at UNITI is **"very welcoming"** to all kinds of people regardless of race, age, and gender" and that "there is so much room for learning. There is never ending learning, **I learn something new everyday**".

### Coldest Night of the Year

UNITI asked Marjorie what her favourite project to work on has been and she said her highlight has been supporting UNITI to get engaged with Coldest Night of the Year.

Marjorie stated, "I supported the women in the Community Development Committee in organizing UNITI's participation in the event. **The turnout for the walk was the best so far and UNITI raised a total of \$3800** towards SOURCES Homelessness Prevention Services and Rent Bank. This was the most money UNITI has raised for this event to date. It was truly incredible to see the effects of everyone's teamwork put together. We couldn't have done it without everyone's support!"

“  
"I have grown a lot professionally working at UNITI. There are a lot of jobs here that you don't realize and people are given opportunities to grow in these positions."  
”

*If you are interested in learning more about becoming a Community Support Worker, please contact [recruit@uniti4all.com](mailto:recruit@uniti4all.com).*

# PROJECTS & GRANTS

Projects and grants are a major factor in UNITI's ability to provide quality services for people we support, families and the greater community. These projects help enhance UNITI services and through them, UNITI has developed impactful and everlasting partners.

Check out some of the projects and grants below!



UNITI's Recreation and Leisure (R&L) Services continue to host some of the **most-liked classes** within the organization.

These services offers a wide range of recreational **programs adapted to the unique needs and abilities** of people. With the funding from the Province of BC through a Gaming Grant, UNITI's R&L services have been able to offer a variety of services all week, including Friday Flix, social night, fitness & sports classes and much more!

R&L services are funded through grants, donations, endowment funds, and affordable user fees.

UNITI's R&L philosophy is that we strive to provide a **safe and fun environment** that enables people to access the community, express themselves creatively, learn new and exciting things, all while having fun!

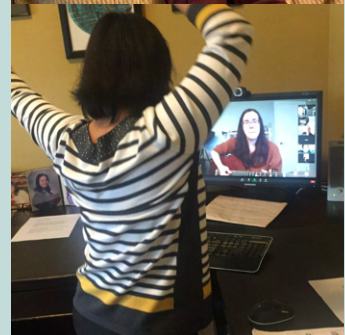


## MUSIC HEALS

The funds provided by Music Heals goes toward the operations of music therapy classes. There are **hundreds of people** that benefit from these classes, they remain the most popular classes offered.

UNITI has daily music classes presented virtually, open to anyone using UNITI services. With the transition back to in-person programs, these classes have been a great way to bridge those who are staying home and those who are attending programs in person - bringing everyone together. During the pandemic, these classes were **essential for maintaining valuable connections** for the people using UNITI services.

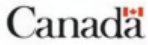
Recently, UNITI's Musical Theatre program resumed to an in-person format (which has been a well-loved and popular program for many years). With this funding, in the coming months, UNITI will begin to host more in-person options for our Community Inclusion Services.



**UNITI wants to extend a big THANK YOU to all our Grant Funders and more!**



UNITI partner **The Semiahmoo Foundation** donated over **\$153,000** in the last year to UNITI services in addition to donations and funding.



This program is funded by the Government of Canada and the Province of British Columbia.

The IMPACT project was developed in 2019 in response to the low labour market participation of individuals with disabilities in BC. The IMPACT project was initiated in 2020 by **eight member organizations** of the BC Employment Network. The project involves three cohorts of youth over three years and UBC is the research arm in this project

The goal of the IMPACT Youth Employment Research Project is to support transitioning youth with disabilities in a structured research and innovative pilot project. The project will **improve employment related planning and supports.**

Outcomes reveal an **increase in overall paid and unpaid work experience** through the youth's engagement with IMPACT. This project is entering its third year and is looking forward to creating a more accessible labour market.



vancouver foundation

Since our inception in 1958, UNITI has supported people who have developmental disabilities to be **fully included and valued** in their communities.

UNITI has found that youth (ages 13-18) who have developmental disabilities are not included or connected with their communities in the same manner that youth who do not have disabilities. This is a pressing issue that UNITI is committed to working on and finding out how it can create change so that **youth with disabilities are better included.**

Through the 'Develop Grant' funding stream from the Vancouver Foundation, UNITI was able to conduct a study reaching hundreds of people to get feedback on how to better include youth with disabilities. With this information, UNITI aims to facilitate better adapted and integrated youth programs.



# HOW UNITI IS GETTING BETTER

## What is PQI?

Performance and Quality Improvement (PQI) is a part of being an accredited organization through the Council on Accreditation (COA). It is a process used by UNITI to ensure we have **high quality services and well performing systems**. This is an ongoing process as quality improvement is continuous.

PQI supports UNITI to **achieve its mission** by establishing specific, measurable and time-limited outcomes related to our mission and regular consultations with our stakeholders about the impact of those outcomes. Using a balance of qualitative and quantitative data collection from our stakeholders, PQI supports UNITI to understand what that data means, identify where changes are needed and most importantly, celebrate our achievements.

## What Have We Done?

While much has happened within UNITI we are focusing on three areas: 1) Short-Term Planning, 2) Redesign of Annual Surveys, and 3) Internal Training Opportunities.

### Short-Term Planning

UNITI has implemented a new short-term planning tool, the Logic Models, for all programs and services. These Logic Models are used to ensure our services have the impact they were designed for. The benefits will also include a more transparent and accessible view of how things are going.

### Annual Survey

UNITI's annual survey was redesigned to be more accessible and better aligned with UNITI's mission. Responses are now easier analyzed and combined with other data UNITI collects regarding the impact. This work could not be done without people we support through the Ends Review Committee and the Self Advocates of Semiahmoo.

### Training

UNITI has prioritized and is providing further resources, information, education, and training in the areas of race, culture, gender and sexuality. The purpose of this is to increase awareness, develop healthy relationships and ensure staff are equipped with resources and tools to better support people who use our services.



# AFFORDABLE & INCLUSIVE HOUSING

UNITI's housing model was selected as one of the top three Canadian models of inclusive housing by Inclusion Canada.



PEHS exists to ensure there is housing built that fits the needs of the community and is affordable and inclusive. UNITI partner PEHS has been an important part of the community for over 40 years. Over the last year, UNITI's housing has received astounding support from all over the province and UNITI continues to advocate for the desperate need for this type of housing.

As a significant land owner in Surrey, UNITI is in a position of strength to provide housing for the community. UNITI is looking forward to being able to provide more homes for people in the community who need a place to call home. Make sure to follow us on social media @uniti4all and stay up-to-date with our future projects!



**Want to know more about UNITI's Housing?**  
Scan this QR code with your phone camera!



## Looking to Help Out?

**PEHS is looking for volunteers!**

This is a fun opportunity filled with endless potential. We are looking for someone who is ready to help and have some fun doing a variety of jobs from helping tenants, handyman items, gardening and more!

If you are interested in learning more please contact us at [volunteer@uniti4all.com](mailto:volunteer@uniti4all.com)

# INCLUSIVE EMPLOYERS

## Why Hire Inclusive?

UNITI's Wise Employment Services are all about working collaboratively and **creating inclusive and dynamic workplaces** through innovative solutions. Supporting and empowering job seekers to discover their potential, passions and unique skills, this service helps connect employers to a huge and diverse but untapped labour pool.

UNITI visited one of the many inclusive employers, Value Village, to talk to Michelle and Greg. Michelle is the manager of the local Value Village in Surrey and hired Greg in early 2022. When asked why it is important to be inclusive when hiring, Michelle said "It helps people to be more accepting. It **stretches people's biases** when they think a certain way about a person and how they work. That's why it's important to open people's minds. Greg is a fantastic team member!"

## Did you know...

More than **5.3 million** Canadians live with some form of disability.



**90%** of people with disabilities perform as well or better than on the job peers.

People with disabilities are **underemployed**, but, want to **work**.



[empowernl.ca](http://empowernl.ca)  
[easterseals.ca](http://easterseals.ca)

## The Impact

According to UNITI's research, about **79% of businesses want to offer more opportunities** to people with disabilities and having a job is an extremely important factor in many people's life. Greg stated "It's important to have a job so I can support myself and my family". He also said working at Value Village has helped him feel "**confident**" and is "a lot of fun".

If you are interested in learning about the advantages of hiring into this untapped labor pool of people with diversabilities - we are here to help!

**EMAIL US:**  
[wisejobs@uniti4all.com](mailto:wisejobs@uniti4all.com)



**Greg**

*Employee at Value Village*



**Michelle**

*Manager at Value Village*



# LOOKING IN: Hearing from Logan & Tegan

# Canada

*This project is funded in part by the  
Government of Canada's Enabling Accessibility Fund.*

## Meet Logan & Tegan

Logan Gillies



Logan is passionate about advocacy and accessibility. When asked why he feels it is important, Logan stated;

**"Accessibility is important because it will make people feel more included."**

When the Enabling Accessibility Fund - Youth Innovation Component, from the Government of Canada became available, UNITI and Logan partnered up with youth Tegan Kim to apply for funding. With the successful application, UNITI received funding to renovate the washroom at UNITI's North Campus for the 'Wheelchair Lift for Accessible Bathroom' project. This project will **improve accessibility and safety** for people with multiple disabilities at our North Campus location and will create a more accessible place for everyone!

Logan shared why this project meant something to him, he said "It makes me happy inside. **It makes me feel good when I help people**". Logan said he loved working on this grant and is excited to help with future applications and projects that will help everyone at UNITI and in the community.

Tegan is a high school student with a passion for getting involved and helping others. Taking a leadership role, alongside Logan on this project as the Youth Accessibility Leader Tegan stated, "I was welcomed into North Campus by Logan and was able to **gather valuable information** for Logan that helped when writing up my portion of the EAF Youth Grant."

*If you want to keep up to date with the progress of this grant make sure to follow us on social media for updates @uniti4all*



Tegan Kim

# UNITI PARTNER SHS 2021/22 ENDS CONSULTATION

## What are the Ends?

The Ends are what UNITI strives to achieve. They are created through comprehensive consultations with our community. The Ends consultations are one way that UNITI holds itself accountable. UNITI celebrates what we are successfully achieving and strive to do better in areas where we fall short.

## What are the Ends Consultations?

Every year, UNITI holds a consultation led by people with disabilities to check in to see how people are doing. This is to support people in living good lives of their choosing. By hosting these consultations, UNITI is able to see what is going well, where we can improve and receive recommendations from self-advocates.

This year, the 2021-2022 consultations were about:

ENDS #1: *People are valued members of society*

## Question explored

When thinking about Ends #1, here the question we explored:

1 What are people's hopes for the future?

“  
Give back more  
to my  
community.  
”

“  
To have meaningful  
and awesome days.  
”

The Ends Consultation Committee and UNITI staff had conversations with **71** people to ask, listen and learn.





## What are your main concerns about life in relation to Ends 1?

(47 participants chose their top 5)



## What are some recommendations for UNITI?

- 

Increase opportunities and experiences for people to explore social roles.
- 

Develop creative ways to increase awareness about respect and kindness.
- 

Evaluate all UNITI locations and homes for level of inclusiveness and accessibility.
- 

Ensure everything that needs to be in plain language and easy to understand is in plain language and easy to understand.
- 

Support people to build full and interesting community lives.
- 

Support people to build relationships and make friends.
- 

Increase opportunities for people to be a leader.
- 

Create a process to follow up with the ENDS recommendations.

# REFLECTING AND MOVING FORWARD

## Thoughts From Directors

UNITI asked a few of the Directors the following questions:

**What has changed positively at UNITI over the last two years?  
What are your hopes for UNITI moving forward?**

Here's what they had to say...



"We have formed deeper relationships and people are realizing their dreams for the future!"

***Brianna Hopaluk, Associate Director of Community Services.***



"UNITI has seen positive changes, like the ability to partner with a diverse set of businesses and the government through grants."

***Doug Tennant, CEO***



"Moving forward, let's welcome new staff, empower our younger staff and create more leadership opportunities!"

***Jasper Macabulos, Director of Inclusive Living***



"We have enhanced our work flexibility and are talking more openly about mental health and family."

***Jillian Glennie, Director of Development***



"I am looking forward to leveraging our staff team's skills and the strong financial base of the organization to deliver innovative services."

***Ellen Powell, Director of Finance***





# JOIN OUR TEAM!

## Are you interested in working for UNITI?

UNITI is a growing organization, working to achieve a healthier and more inclusive community for all people. We are hiring **Community Support Workers and Residential Support Workers** and other positions throughout the organization.

To see current job openings visit our website: [uniti4all.com](http://uniti4all.com)

## What are we looking for?

We are seeking people who enjoy being part of a team, care about inclusion of all people in our community, and want to move the disability movement forward. Having relatable education and or experience along with a valid BC Driver's license helps meet the needs of the people using UNITI's services.

### INSIDER TIP!

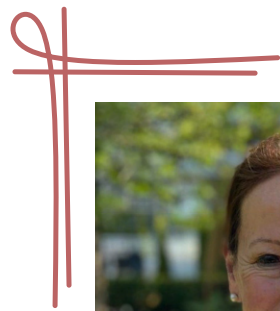
Before submitting your resume and cover letter to [recruit@uniti4all.com](mailto:recruit@uniti4all.com) familiarize yourself with our website.



# APPRECIATION & RETIREMENT

## Always Part of UNITI

The backbone of UNITI is the amazing contributions from staff, support systems, volunteers and board members. UNITI would not be what it is today without the incredible work and efforts from the following two people. Both Linda and Rich served on UNITI's Board and with that brought their skills, knowledge and experience to enhance our organization.



**Linda Annis**

Linda Annis served on UNITI's Board for over 2 years while also working as a council member for the City of Surrey and Executive Director for Metro Vancouver Crime Stoppers. In 2018 Linda was approached by Rich Gorman and recruited to join UNITI as a board member. Since joining, Linda has proven to be an asset to the organization through her dedication and **passion for creating a better community** for all people. Linda will always be an important part of UNITI and the City of Surrey.

**"I am absolutely, completely impressed with the work UNITI does. I think UNITI is a leader, if not THE leader, in terms of advocating for, providing opportunities and housing for people with disabilities. I am so proud that they're in Surrey."**

Rich has been involved with UNITI for more than **20 years as a parent**, and served on UNITI's **Board of Directors for 9 years**. After retiring from his job at the Hudson Bay Company, Rich was quickly connected with UNITI's Board. Rich is a man of experience, knowledge and has brought his talents to the table. Playing an integral role on the board for many years, Rich has helped shape where UNITI is today. While his great ideas and humor will be missed on the board, Rich's legacy lives on through many of his recruited board members and lasting ideas.

**"Being on the board created the opening that I have in the community. My friendship and responsibilities with other people have expanded dramatically. At UNITI, we are surrounded by people who push you to do better."**



**Rich Gorman**



"UNITI is strong because people like Rich and Linda selflessly share their leadership and expertise with us."

**- Doug Tennant**

# REPORT CONCLUSION

## Endless Opportunities

As shown in this report, UNITY is a growing organization that exists all over Surrey and White Rock. UNITY is intertwined in the daily life of the community, leading to countless possibilities and opportunities for everyone. **Don't know where to start?** Come and talk with us! We can help you learn more about who we are, what we do and where you can become an important part of UNITY.



## Priceless Partnerships

*Together we're stronger.* UNITY believes that through our **meaningful relationships**, we can contribute to the lives of people in an impactful way.

UNITY is grateful to have such esteemed partners that bring their gifts and talents to the table. Working together, our partnerships produce incredible projects and services that enhance our daily lives. This report highlights some great local projects. To **keep up with the amazing work** happening in our community, make sure to pick-up up a copy of this report annually.

Be sure to check out the Surrey Intercultural Seniors Social Inclusion Partnership Network on **page 19!**

## UNITY starts with 'You'

There are so many stories to be told. The incredible people highlighted in this report, are an example of why UNITY is a leader in the community. Through reading the 'Looking In' series we guarantee reader's will be **better connected and more curious** about what we do.

This report is designed with intention and purpose with meaning behind what we do. We hope that our readers enjoy flipping through UNITY's last year of impact.

If you are looking for a hard copy, please connect with [unity@unity4all.com](mailto:unity@unity4all.com). **We are happy to hear from you!**



To find more information about what UNITY is doing, please go to [www.unity4all.com](http://www.unity4all.com), or call 604-536-1242 to ask for direct support.



# WHAT'S NEXT

## We Belong Surrey

*We Belong Surrey* is a non-partisan coalition of businesses, community organizations, and individuals who believe in a Surrey where all people are valued and belong. The coalition's foundation is the shared values of integrity, inclusion, compassion, and respect. We will ensure that these values are at the forefront of Surrey's leadership conversations.



**WE BELONG**  
SURREY



## 12 Days of UNITI

**\$114,396.00** was raised, by you, for the inaugural 12 Days of UNITI campaign!

Make sure to stay tuned for our next launch of the 12 Days of UNITI and see what areas you can make a difference in!

## Lauren's Story

Lauren's Story is a documentary that follows the journey of housing activist and disability advocate Lauren Simpson, as she works for affordable housing for herself and others.



Watch on YouTube now!



## TEDxSurrey Salon

It's a smaller TEDx event that focuses on ONE key idea; is limited to a small number of speakers; is much shorter than a regular TEDx event; and allows for audience discussion and participation.

**TED<sup>x</sup>SurreySalon**

x = independently organized TED event

Social Media: @uniti4all  
Website: [www.uniti4all.com](http://www.uniti4all.com)  
15306 24 Avenue, Surrey, B.C., Canada

**uniti**

Email:  
[uniti@uniti4all.com](mailto:uniti@uniti4all.com)  
Phone: 604 536 1242  
Fax: 604 536 9507