



Introduction

USF Mission Statement: To provide opportunities for urban Aboriginal people on their journey to success through education and training, secondary and post-secondary scholarships and relief of poverty.

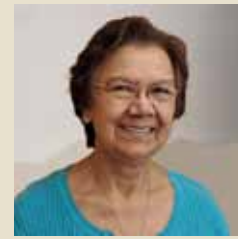
Urban Spirit Foundation is a registered charitable organization that exists to further the success and self-reliance of urban Aboriginal people in the Metro Vancouver region. In 2007, USF was created by Aboriginal Community Career Employment Services Society (ACCESS).

The Foundation has three core purposes which are 1) Education and Employment Training 2) Scholarship Awards and 3) Short Term Assistance that provides grants to urban Aboriginal organizations for community-based projects and programs that enable urban Aboriginal individuals and families to get back on track in times of need.

USF's Board of Directors is comprised of a diverse group of reputable individuals with strong connections and commitment to the urban Aboriginal community. The Board is represented by the following community leaders:

- USF President – Susan Tatoosh, Vancouver Aboriginal Friendship Centre Society
- Vice-President – Jerry Adams, Circle of Eagles Lodge Society
- Secretary-Treasurer – Stewart Anderson, Vancity Savings Credit Union
- Director – Marjorie White, Community Member
- Director – Ross Ramsey, Ross Ramsey Associates Limited
- Director – Merv Thomas, Canadian Aboriginal AIDS Network
- Director – Tabitha Geraghty, Helping Spirit Lodge Society

Urban Spirit Foundation is overseen by Executive Director John Webster and staff with the office located at 108-100 Park Royal, West Vancouver, BC.



Susan Tatoosh
USF President



Jerry Adams
USF Vice President



Stewart Anderson
USF Secretary-Treasurer



Merv Thomas
USF Director



Marjorie White
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Ross Ramsey
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Tabitha Geraghty
USF Director



Diana Thompson, USF Single Parent Bursary Recipient, Native Education College

Year In Review

Urban Spirit Foundation disbursed three educational institutions in 2011 in the amount of \$2,000 each. Eight urban Aboriginal scholarships were awarded throughout Metro Vancouver through the Native Education College, Vancouver and Surrey School Boards.

This year's recipients come from the following schools:

- Lord Tweedsmuir Secondary School (Surrey School District)
- L.A. Matheson Secondary School (Surrey School District)
- Hastings Adult Education (Vancouver School Board)
- Britannia Secondary School (Vancouver School Board)
- Native Education College

Scholarships are provided to secondary and post-secondary Aboriginal students based on need and ability, and who are pursuing post-secondary studies in fields that will help meet the specific needs of First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples and communities.



Terrance Sankey, USF Male Bursary Recipient, Native Education College

USF also supports the BladeRunners program for youth-at-risk to receive training to enter into construction, trades and labour careers. The BladeRunners' motto is to "Give 24/7 support" which is crucial to the success of the client (www.bladerunners.com). UFS has also helped to support Essential Skills for Aboriginal Futures (ESAF).

In 2011, Urban Spirit Foundation supported the Back to School Backpack program in partnership with the Vancouver Aboriginal Friendship Centre. This initiative is geared toward providing school supplies for Aboriginal children in East Vancouver. USF has also contributed towards gifting to the Children's Christmas program that is held at the Vancouver Aboriginal Friendship Centre which provides Christmas food hampers and children's gifts to Aboriginal families in need.

Future Activities

- USF Launch – May 2012
- Annual General Meeting – June 2012
- National Aboriginal Day Walkathon – June 2012
- 2012 Scholarship Awards – May to July 2012
- Art Auction – Fall 2012

Contact

For further information on the Urban Spirit Foundation or on-line donation, please view our website at www.urbanspiritfoundation.com or email us at info@urbanspiritfoundation.com.

Charitable Number: 82789 5368 RR0001



The Bolton Family attended the Children's Christmas party at the Vancouver Aboriginal Friendship Centre that was sponsored by supporters including Urban Spirit Foundation



Tanya Mitchell takes home a food hamper for her family at Vancouver Aboriginal Friendship Centre Children's Christmas Party



Caroline Antoine, 2011 USF Perseverance in Learning Award, Hastings Adult Education Centre, Vancouver School Board



Charlene Linklater, 2011 USF Single Parent Bursary Recipient at Native Education College