

Urban Spirit Foundation



The Urban Spirit Foundation (USF) is a charitable organization that exists to further the success and self-reliance of Urban Indigenous people in the Metro Vancouver Region. USF was created in 2007 by the founders of ACCESS, and with ACCESS' support all funds raised by USF go directly to our purpose with no administration fee. We are united in our purpose, with the Foundation working to grow philanthropic resources to provide education and employment training opportunities, secondary and post-secondary scholarships and bursaries, and community-based programs and projects that move people from poverty to self-sufficiency. In what seems like a short time since, we have worked to create our vision, build our leadership, support our local community, and

engage with people who have been so moved by our purpose that they have made valued contributions of many kinds. Annually, USF supports the Vancouver Aboriginal Friendship Centre's Children's Back-to-School Backpack Program. Children receive a backpack filled with school supplies needed to start the new school year. USF also supports the VAFCS (Vancouver Aboriginal Friendship Centre Society) Children's Christmas Party where low-income families receive a food hamper, and each child receives a present to open on Christmas morning. Each year for Giving Tuesday, USF has the Chili and Bannock Lunch-To-Go Fundraiser and the Annual USF Charity Golf Classic Tournament.



Since 2010 we have provided more than 180 scholarships totaling over \$174,000



Harmony Basi-Lightfoot
MOOSOMIN FIRST NATION

Harmony graduated from Cariboo Hill Secondary in Burnaby. Harmony plans to enroll at the Justice Institute and would like to become a Paramedic. We would like to wish her all the best in her future.

“I am so grateful to Urban Spirit Foundation and the assistance toward my future education”



Sonny Many Grey Horses
BLOOD TRIBE

The **Apotex Urban Spirit Foundation Grant** not only eased her financial burden but also provided the hope and encouragement she needed to keep moving forward. She is often reminded of her goal to serve her community as a registered nurse. However, the weight of tuition costs, textbooks, and other educational expenses often feels overwhelmingly heavy. As a casual employee, this grant allowed her to focus fully on her studies without the constant worry of how to afford her basic needs. It enabled her to dedicate her time and energy to learning and growing in the medical field, rather than having to split her focus between work and school. Knowing that she has the support of this grant inspired her to strive for excellence and persevere through various challenges. It served as a powerful reminder that her goals are achievable and help place her in environments where Indigenous students can thrive.



Keisha Pelletier
COWESS NATION

Keisha Pelletier is from the Cowess Nation in Saskatchewan. She graduated from the Heron's Nest Education program and plans to attend the Family Community Counselling Program at Native Education College.

“I would like to thank USF for the award! In the future I see myself being a hairdresser and then I'll go to school at NEC for Family and Community Counselling. My daughter and I are very thankful for this scholarship”

Vanaya Jobin
BLACKFOOT AND NISGA'A NATION

Vanaya graduated from Vancouver School District and plans to pursue the Early Education Program at Native Education College. She would one day like to be a contender for the UFC Straw Weight Martial Arts Championship.

“I would like to thank Urban Spirit Foundation for the scholarship toward my post-secondary education. Thank you for your help so I can achieve what I want to do in my life”



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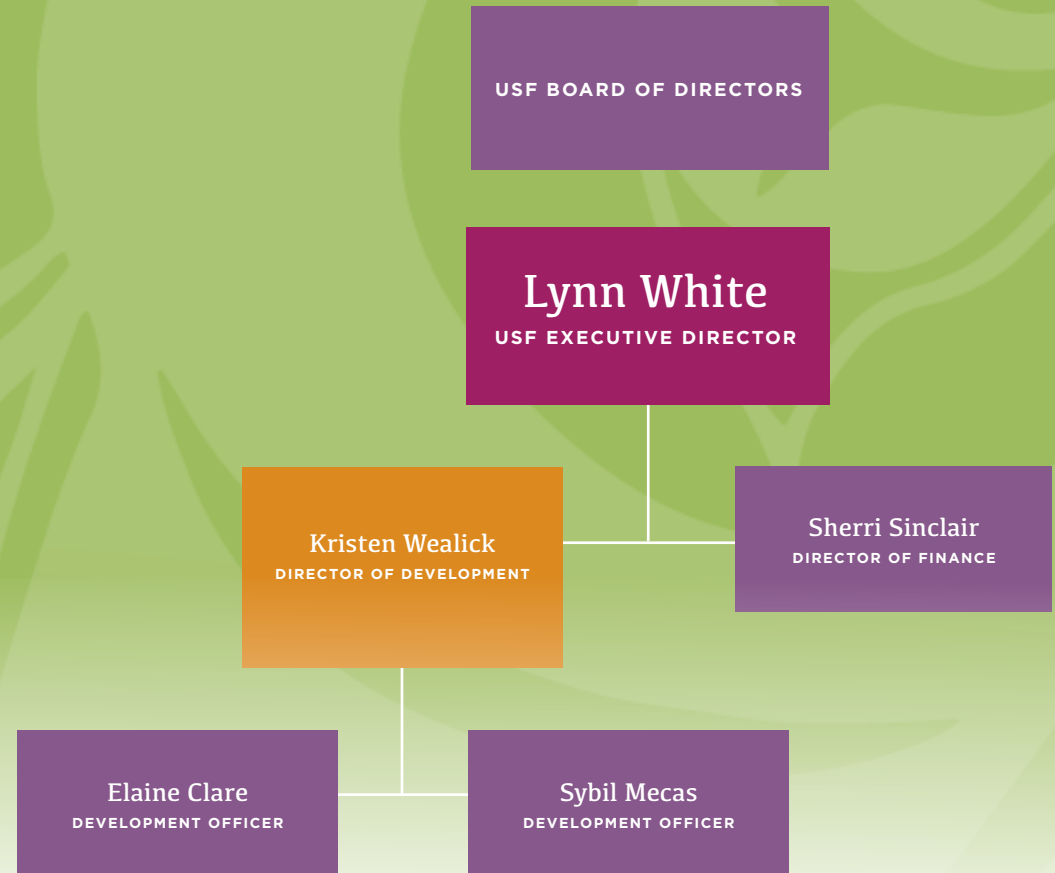
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Organization Chart



We would like to thank our donors

