



2025/26 ANNUAL REPORT



WISH
Drop-In Centre Society

WISH is located on the unceded, stolen lands of the X̱w̱məθkʷəy̱əm (Musqueam), Sḵw̱x̱w̱ú7mesh (Squamish), and sə́ilwətaʔ/séilwitulh (Tsleil-Waututh) First Nations.

Message from the Board and Executive Director

Safety. Dignity. Self-determination. For every sex worker.

Over the last year, WISH has undergone a process of critical self-reflection, including a redefining of our vision, purpose and core commitments through a strategic planning process that will guide us for the next three years. While this new plan has transformed some of the ways we do the work, how we show up and what we stand for, it has actually only deepened a commitment to centering those we serve. WISH has been a safe and dedicated space for street-based sex workers for over 40 years, and throughout this process we have reaffirmed that commitment time and time again.

We want to raise our hands to all who contributed to this process – the board, senior leadership team, managers, frontline staff, and most importantly the participants who generously shared their time and labour so that we can better understand the shifting landscape for street-based sex workers.



Their voices allowed us to better assess and adjust our direction in response to a changing environment. The work of WISH is continuously colliding with growing crises – housing, healthcare, gender-based violence, toxic drugs, and economic uncertainty. At every level, the perseverance and resilience that is shown every day in complex and demanding conditions is what will keep us going for another 40 years.

We want to extend heartfelt thanks for the ongoing support of our allies, donors, funders, volunteers, and community partners. Your backing, encouragement and care ensure that our purpose is brought to life every day because ***WISH exists so women, trans, Two-Spirit and non-binary sex workers can live and work on their own terms, free from violence, judgment and rescue. We create space for safety and connection by centring street-based voices within our community.***

In solidarity,

Lauren (Ilaanaay) Casey
Board Chair

&

Kara Gillies
Executive Director

At the Centre

With much celebration, and great relief, WISH's overnight Drop-In Program reopened to operate at 5 nights a week in November 2025.

For WISH participants, this critical overnight program provides more than needed essentials – **it's a safe space to connect with community.**

Women, trans, Two-Spirit, non-binary and gender diverse sex workers can stop by the Drop-In to share a meal, have a shower, grab some clean clothes and makeup, or just take a rest.

Since it reopened, the Drop-In is also hosting evening classes and workshops, the weekly Sex Worker Circle, and regular social events.

Always a great place to go at night when I need to feel safe.

– WISH participant

Participant Engagement interviews conducted during the closure led to another change: having lived experience in sex work is now a requirement for Program Facilitators.

This specialized knowledge helps Drop-In staff maintain a welcoming space where **sex workers feel valued and protected** and helps build trusting relationships through open discussions about sex work.

We are creating a Drop-In that is for sex workers, by sex workers, where there is no doubt about who this space is for.

– Drop-In Manager

Thank you to every participant who shared feedback during this challenging year, to the WISH staff and volunteers who provide care and connection every day, and to our donors and main funder of the Drop-In, BC Housing, for **keeping this critical resource open when sex workers need it most.**



Year at a Glance

May 13, 2025

Temporary "door service" weekly meal distribution begins

June 11, 2025

WISH Online Screening: *Adventures in Sex Work*



July 22, 2025

Launch of new WISH website, with improved accessibility



Over 850 street-based sex workers connect with WISH 160,000+ times each year.

July 31, 2025

WISH joins Bluesky [@wishdropin.bsky.social](https://bsky.app/profile/wishdropin.bsky.social)



September 11, 2025

WISH signs *The Safety Net Is Tearing* - a call to action to from 200+ non-profits in B.C.



April 22, 2025

Indigenous Health & Safety Program Cohort Graduation

June 2-9, 2025

Our Hustle, Our Struggle, Our Art exhibition at Gallery George featuring work by WISH participants



July 22, 2025

PACE Society closure announced

July 30, 2025

New B.C. RCMP counter human trafficking unit (CHTU) launched, generating pushback over expected harms to sex workers

August 20, 2025

MAP Van services reduced to 6 nights per week



September 26, 2025

WISH Strategic Planning begins

October 26, 2025

WISH Shelter celebrates 5 years of operations



November 6, 2025

Indigenous Sharing Circle (formerly hosted by PACE) begins meeting at WISH

December 18, 2025

Living in Community end of services announced

January 30, 2026

As Supports Dwindle, Violence Against Sex Workers Is Up article published by The Tyee



March 6, 2026

New classes on Effective Communication and Emotional Regulation begin in the Drop-In



November 5, 2025

WISH's first Pre-Employment InReach Worker joins the team

November 18, 2025

WISH Drop-In Program re-opens 5 nights/week



January 1, 2026

WISH's year-end fundraising campaign goal exceeded by 37%

Thank you!

March 4, 2026

Leading the West Coast and Beyond International Women's Day fundraiser hosted by SFU Beedie's Graduate Women's Council



March 12, 2026

New automated payroll system launched greatly improving the process for WISH managers and staff

Financial Summary

WISH programming is made possible through the support of individuals, foundations, community organizations, and all levels of government. The Province of B.C. provides funding through BC Housing to our 24/7 Shelter (94%) and Drop-In Centre (83%), and through the Ministry of Public Safety & Solicitor General (Victim Services) to our mobile MAP Van (77%). The generosity of donors like you, along with this critical core funding, allows WISH to provide the care, connection, and dignity that sex workers truly deserve.

Government Grant Revenue

Federal	\$ 7,296
Provincial	\$ 3,600,086
Municipal	\$ 186,785
Total Grants Government	\$ 3,794,167

Other Revenue

Foundations	\$ 555,265
Contributions	\$ 598,412
Interest & Other	\$ 38,554
Expense Recovery	\$ 31,786
Amortization of Deferred Capital Contributions	\$ 133,746

Total Other Revenue	\$ 1,357,763
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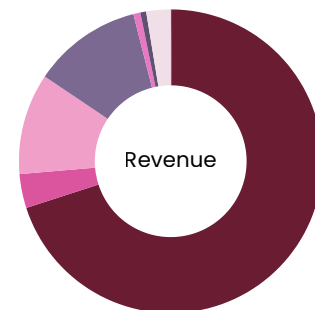
Total Revenue	\$ 5,151,930
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Expenses

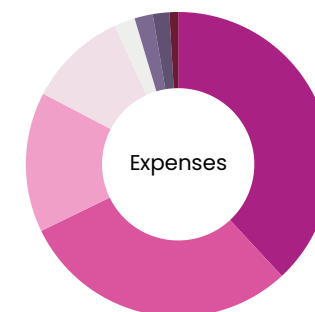
Drop-In Centre	\$ 1,386,000
MAP Van	\$ 489,709
Supportive Employment Program	\$ 81,906
Indigenous Health & Safety Program	\$ 90,217
InReach	\$ 103,437
Learning Centre & Music Therapy	\$ 43,201
Shelter	\$ 1,776,355
Organizational Support	\$ 693,554

Total Expenses	\$ 4,664,379
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Excess (deficiency) of Revenue over Expenses	\$ 487,551
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Provincial	70 %
Contributions	12 %
Foundations	11 %
Municipal	4 %
Amortizations	3 %
Interest & Other	< 1 %
Expense Recovery	< 1 %
Federal	< 1 %



Shelter	38 %
Drop-In Centre	30 %
Org Support	15 %
MAP Van	10 %
InReach	2 %
IHSP	2 %
SEP	2 %
LC & MT	< 1 %

Rounded to the nearest percentage point.

