



Shaped — BY — Change

ANNUAL REPORT 2025

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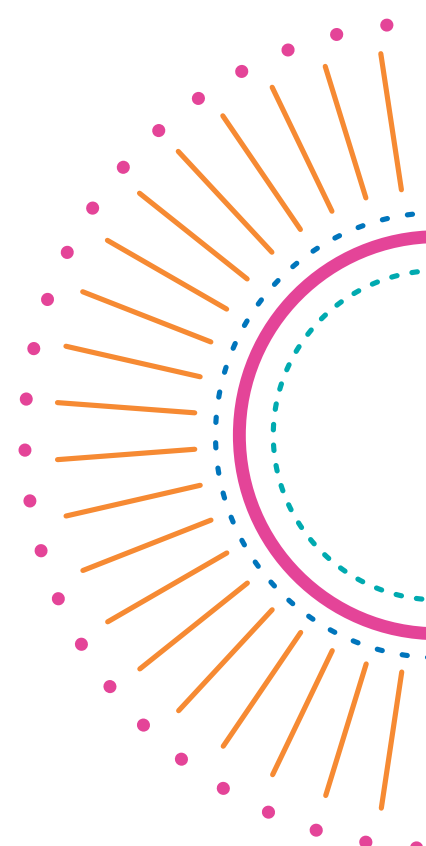
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Land Acknowledgement

We acknowledge that we are on the traditional land of Treaty 6 Territory and the Metis Homeland of Region 4. The footsteps of diverse Indigenous peoples have marked this territory from time immemorial — First Nations, Metis, Inuit and now settlers from around the world.

We are all treaty members, with recognition and respect for Indigenous Peoples and the traditional territories on which we live, work and play. We call upon our collective honoured traditions and spirits to share responsibility for stewardship of this beautiful land and our community.

YWCA Edmonton is committed to truth and reconciliation. This includes understanding the truth of our shared colonial history, making positive changes within our organization and taking actions that advance justice, safety and equity for Indigenous peoples across Turtle Island.



Our Mission

Building safer, stronger equitable communities through leadership, education and empowerment.

Our Vision

A community with equity, opportunity and choice for all.

Our Values

Guided by integrity, empowerment, diversity, innovation, equity and compassion, YWCA Edmonton is committed to fostering an inclusive community enriched by trust, opportunity and dignity for all individuals.

INTEGRITY

We have the fundamental responsibility to conduct all of our relationships in a clear, honest and ethical manner.

EMPOWERMENT

We encourage individuals to recognize the ability and strength within themselves to build a life of dignity with the courage to reach their dreams.

DIVERSITY

We believe that individuals of different backgrounds, experiences, and abilities are necessary to create a vibrant environment that will successfully meet the needs of our community.

INNOVATION

We have the courage to change course, and we believe in creating unique solutions that anticipate the community's changing needs.

EQUITY

We are a feminist organization that believes when working for the equity of women, girls, and gender-diverse individuals, we work for the equity of all.

HEART

We bring compassion and energy to all we do.



Board of Directors

Kelsea Zalaski, *President*

Rachel Foley, *Vice President*

Doris Paquette, *Vice President*

May Han, *Treasurer*

Kirsty Vogelesang, *Secretary*

Francesca Ghossein,
Past President

Tanya Adams

Ogechi Anyanwu

Vicki Campbell

Katie Clackson

Sumira Duggal

Kemi Kufuor-Boakye

Siahra Raeyr

Amy Verhoeff

Laurie Wang

Board Committees

Finance & Audit

Governance

HR & Nominating

Programs & Standards

Truth & Reconciliation





President's Letter

Change has a way of clarifying what matters most. In 2025, YWCA Edmonton was shaped by change in many forms, and through it all, our commitment to equity, safety and community remained steady.

This year marked an important leadership transition for our organization. We extend our sincere thanks to Katherine O'Neill for her five years of dedicated service as CEO of YWCA Edmonton. Katherine's leadership strengthened the organization, expanded our impact and reinforced YWCA Edmonton as a trusted and respected voice in our community. We are grateful for the vision, care and integrity she brought to the role until her departure in October 2025.

During this transition, the Board was deeply appreciative to have Christine McCourt-Reid step into the role of Interim CEO. Her steady leadership ensured continuity and stability during a pivotal period, allowing the Board to focus on a thoughtful and thorough search for permanent leadership while the organization continued to move forward with confidence.

That momentum was evident across our work. The 2025 Rose Campaign became our most successful to date, reflecting both the generosity of our supporters and the community's continued commitment to ending gender-based violence. We also launched the Integrated Domestic Violence Response Team pilot, a powerful example of cross-sector collaboration designed to respond to complex needs with care and coordination. At Camp Yowochas, the completion of Phase 1 of the septic replacement project marked an important step toward long-term sustainability and continued community use.

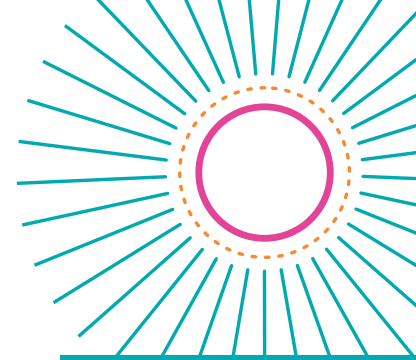
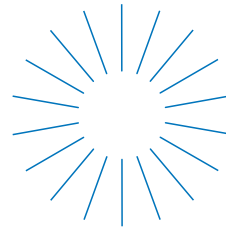
YWCA Edmonton also remained deeply connected within our broader movement. Staff and Board members attended the YWCA Canada All Members Meeting in Quebec City, connecting with colleagues from across the federation and strengthening relationships that support shared learning, collaboration and collective impact.

None of this work happens in isolation. It is shaped by the dedication of our staff, the guidance of our Board, the trust of our partners and the generosity of our donors and volunteers. Together, you make it possible for YWCA Edmonton to adapt, evolve and respond to what our community needs now and into the future.

Change is not something to fear. When guided by purpose, it strengthens us and prepares us for what comes next. Thank you for being part of this shared work and for helping shape a more just and equitable community.

Sincerely,

Kelsea Zalaski
President, YWCA Edmonton Board of Directors



CEO Letter

After seven years at YWCA Edmonton, stepping into the role of Interim CEO in this final chapter of my time with the organization has been a true honour. Throughout my time here, I have always been proud of how nimble YWCA Edmonton has been, changing course when needed while staying grounded in our values and our community.

I am especially grateful for the opportunity to have worked alongside Katherine O'Neill, whose leadership and trust shaped so much of my own growth and helped lay the groundwork for many of the partnerships and initiatives that followed.

In August, we hosted the first-ever Buffalo Spirit Camp, a youth retreat held at Camp Yowochas in partnership with Paul First Nation. It was deeply meaningful to see this come to life through shared intention and relationship-building. Elders, youth and staff came together on the land in ways that reinforced an important truth for us: trust is built through humility, consistency and time. It also reminded us that this kind of work asks patience and a willingness to learn as we go.

That same approach shaped much of our broader work. We launched the Integrated Domestic Violence Response Team (IDVRT) pilot to strengthen coordinated responses for those facing the highest levels of risk. We took on stewardship of the DirectHer Network, deepening our role as a backbone organization supporting women's economic security. And our most successful Rose Campaign to date reflected a community ready to engage more openly and collectively in ending gender-based violence.

Leading through a period of transition has reinforced my confidence in this organization. I have seen the care our staff bring to their work, the steadiness of our Board, and the trust placed in YWCA Edmonton by our community. As I prepare to pass the torch, I do so with gratitude and optimism.

Change is not an ending; it is an opening. I am so proud of what we have built together and hopeful for what comes next. Thank you for walking alongside us and for helping shape a future rooted in equity, opportunity and choice for all.

With gratitude,

Christine McCourt-Reid
Interim CEO, YWCA Edmonton





LEADERSHIP TEAM

- Christine McCourt-Reid, *Interim CEO*
- Renée Chan, *Director of External Relations*
- Ashley Lim, *Director of Counselling Services*
- Garnet Pratt, *Director of Finance & Operations*
- Greig Smith, *Director of Disability Services*

YWCA EDMONTON ELDERS IN RESIDENCE

Harry & Elsie Watchmaker

Leadership Transition:
Katherine O'Neill served as
CEO until her departure in
October 2025.

Counselling Services

In the fall of 2024, YWCA learned of an unexpected and deeply concerning change. Funding for the city's Domestic Assault High Risk Team ended, signalling a major shift in how survivors of high-risk domestic violence would be supported in our community.

By the end of 2024, Edmonton would no longer have a specialized team of social workers embedded with police to quickly connect domestic violence survivors to critical supports. Faced with this gap, Counselling Services, in partnership with enCompass, the Edmonton Police Service and the City of Edmonton, refused to let that change become the new normal.

Out of this moment of disruption, the Integrated Domestic Violence Response Team (IDVRT) launched in 2025. With up to 1,000 reported high-risk intimate partner violence occurrences in Edmonton each year, the collaborative team mobilized to respond to a changing landscape, creating a rapid, wraparound service model that prioritizes survivor safety and delivers client-centered, holistic care. IDVRT is one of the first programs of its kind in North America, bringing together police, social workers and community services in a coordinated response that reduces risk, improves safety outcomes and closes gaps for survivors of high-risk family violence. Research on the impact of Family Justice Centres shows that integrated, survivor-centered models increase access to supports, reduce system re-traumatization and improve both safety and justice outcomes—principles that IDVRT applies within Alberta's unique social context.

High-risk IPV cases are rarely static. They evolve quickly, often with lives at imminent risk. In these moments, timely and coordinated responses can mean the difference between life and death. The multidisciplinary structure of IDVRT allows the team to adapt in real time, responding to changing circumstances with expertise, care and flexibility.

YWCA Edmonton Counselling Services is no stranger to change. As community needs in Edmonton continue to shift, the demand for expert, trauma-informed, affordable mental health care increases. Counselling Services has evolved alongside this need, remaining committed to accessible supports through a sliding-scale model for survivors of domestic and gender-based violence. This approach ensures that no client is ever turned away due to financial barriers, with 99% of sessions fully or partially subsidized.

In addition to the services offered in-office and remotely to survivors at varying parts of their healing journeys, YWCA Edmonton also offers on-site counselling support to three Edmonton shelters and virtual counselling to shelters across Southern Alberta. For many women supported through the rural shelter program, these services represent a profound change, often the first opportunity to connect with a qualified mental health professional without concerns about privacy or stigma associated with rural living.



BY THE NUMBERS

2,805
Counselling sessions

499 TOTAL CLIENTS

460 ADULTS | 39 YOUTHS

220 Shelter clients

77 2SLGBTQ+ clients

132 Indigenous clients

82 Social Work clients



“At a time when things seemed hopeless and like I was stuck deep in a hole, the support I received was instrumental in finding the hope and strength I needed.”

Counselling Client

“The YWCA has provided me with an affordable, professional counselling experience that I truly need during this time in my life. I’m very thankful for the help that the YWCA has provided me.”

Counselling Client

Welcome Home Project

The cost of housing in Edmonton continues to rise amidst converging economic and social crises, creating unique challenges for survivors of domestic violence trying to find a place to land after leaving. Where financial abuse, isolation and trauma converge, housing insecurity follows. The Welcome Home Project provides safe, affordable housing to families residing in the shelter system. In 2025, 17 families with 37 children built a new foundation of stability and safety in their Welcome Home housing, giving them the opportunity to rebuild their lives free from violence.



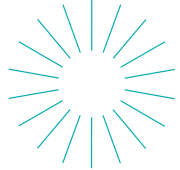
National Recognition

YWCA Edmonton is part of a national federation of 29 member associations working together to advance equity in communities across Canada. Each year, leaders from across the country gather at the YWCA Canada Annual Members Meeting to share learning, strengthen the movement and celebrate collective impact. At AMM 2025 in Québec City, Ashley Lim, Director of Counselling Services, was honoured with the Carolyn Bray Award. This national recognition celebrates staff who demonstrate exceptional dedication, creativity and spirit in advancing the mission of YWCA in their communities. Ashley’s transformative leadership in expanding trauma-informed counselling services and strengthening coordinated responses to violence distinguished her among peers across the country.



Disability Services

Holistic, wrap-around supports mean supports for families.



This is the core tenet of the Family Behavioural Consultation program, a specialized service offered within Disability Services. The small but mighty FBC team of two connect with parents across Edmonton in need of one-on-one, hands-on support to help them better support and understand their children living with exceptionalities and emergent behavioural concerns. All behaviour is communication, and the connections built and fostered by the Family Behavioural Consultants help parents learn to speak their children's language.

While Disability Services has been offering the FBC program for years, 2025 marked a transformation in the program. Families developed a better and more fulsome understanding of their child's unique needs while becoming stronger and more resilient, ready to face any challenges that came along.

The FBC program is an integral part of the Disability Services program, and the successes of the Family Behavioural Consultants are a snapshot of the successes forged by the Disability Services team every day. The largest department in YWCA Edmonton, Disability Services offers support homes, community support and respite services to nearly 200 Individuals every year, including Individuals with complex needs and medically fragile children.

Around the clock, 365 days a year, Disability Services supports Individuals from across the life span, ranging from newborns fresh from the NICU to seniors preparing to retire from their beloved volunteer jobs. As one of the only Disability Services providers in the city that provides support to all ages, many Individuals have been supported by the same staff and living in the same support home for decades to ensure consistency in services and excellent supports.

“[Our FBC Consultant] helped our family through our most difficult time. With her support, I am more confident and know better about my kids’ needs and understanding their behavior. I am really grateful for her support! Big thanks!”

Family Behavioural Consultation Family



BY THE NUMBERS

PEOPLE SERVED

134

ADULTS

21

CHILDREN

7

NORTHERN

86

FBC
CHILDREN

94 Support
Homes

88,904
HOURS

4,181
Respite Days

Cambridge Bay 2025

In addition to the services provided in partnership with provincial government agencies, YWCA Edmonton Disability Services also provides support in partnership with Nunavut and the Northwest Territories. Individuals in remote, Northern communities are connected to support homes in Edmonton to bring them closer to the specialized resources and medical supports they may not be able to get up North.

For the first time, Disability Services travelled to Nunavut in 2025 to reconnect two Individuals with their family and friends against the beautiful backdrop of Cambridge Bay. For these Individuals, their unique support needs brought them to Edmonton, and this trip reconnected them to their home, culture, and loved ones.

“The YWCA helps me live my best life. I get to enjoy many activities that I otherwise would not if I did not have this support.”

Disability Services Individual

“I feel my sister is in the best possible care, she is always so happy when I see her. Her supports are doing a fantastic job.”

Disability Services Guardian

Camp Yowochas

“I actually went to Camp Yowochas as a kid.”

It’s a phrase YWCA Edmonton team members hear often when meeting with donors, funders, community leaders and partners. Again and again, conversations return to personal stories of time spent at Camp Yowochas and how those experiences helped shape who people became. The lawyer who found her voice singing campfire songs at the top of her lungs. The engineer still inspired by the ropes and pulleys of the high ropes course. The community leader who learned early the value of strong friendships and self-respect.

Camp Yowochas’s impact reaches far beyond the shores of Lake Wabamun. Since its founding in 1916, hundreds of thousands of people have connected with nature, challenged themselves and built confidence there. Campers have travelled from across Alberta and around the world, including from as far away as South Korea, to experience Yowochas.

As a year-round outdoor education centre, Camp Yowochas continues to be shaped by changing needs while holding fast to its core values. Programming rooted in care for self, others and the natural world services school groups, youth organizations, scouting groups and corporate teams alike. Its summer camp remains one of the most in-demand secular camp programs in the province, welcoming more than 900 children in 2025.

Equity remains central to Camp Yowochas’s mission. Through the Campership Subsidy program, children from all backgrounds can access the full camp experience regardless of financial circumstance. In 2025, 26 children attended camp through campership support, a number expected to grow in 2026 thanks in part to Epcor’s matching support through the Aim for Adventure campaign.

For more than a century, Albertans have been able to say, “I went to Camp Yowochas as a kid.” As communities change and programs adapt, Camp Yowochas remains a place of return, shaping new generations through experiences that endure long after they leave.



Phase 1 Septic

In 2025, Camp Yowochas completed Phase 1 of its wastewater replacement project, made possible through funding from the Government of Alberta. This critical milestone supports the long-term sustainability of the site, ensuring Camp Yowochas can continue welcoming campers, students and community groups for generations to come.



Camp Clean-Up Days

With over 60 acres of wilderness, Camp Yowochas requires many hands and lots of hard work to keep the property ready for the thousands of visitors it receives every year. Seasonal turnovers and forest maintenance that maintain Camp's stewardship of the land was made possible thanks to the help of volunteer teams sent by: AIMCo, ATCO Energy Systems, Avison Young, BGO, Epcor, Flaman Foundation, Ikea, Jayman Built, Leston Holdings and TD.

Supporter Spotlight: Booster Juice

Thank you to Booster Juice for donating over 800 high quality metal water bottles to our 2025 summer campers. This generous donation helped campers stay hydrated during all of their camp adventures and served as a valuable reminder of the importance of making sustainable choices to steward the land.

Water's Edge Retreat

For families residing in the shelter system, change becomes a constant: leaving their home, meeting with social workers to figure out next steps, concerns about what custody will look like in the coming months and the anxiety that comes with not knowing what comes next. Water's Edge Retreat provides a reprieve from that constant change, giving families the chance to relax and reconnect.

Water's Edge Retreat is a weekend getaway for women and children residing in the shelter system, giving them the chance to enjoy everything that Camp Yowochas has to offer. This year's Water's Edge Retreat brought families from Edmonton shelters to the lakeside to try archery, high ropes, and connect with campfire songs. For those families, the chance to reconnect and rediscover who they are free from the threat of violence will carry them through their stay at the shelter and beyond.





Youth Programs

Youth Programs is often where change shows up first. In 2025, YWCA Edmonton's youth offerings continued to adapt alongside the realities young people are navigating, creating spaces for reflection, confidence-building and growth. Workshops included a Galentine's event focused on self-compassion and strengthening relationships with oneself, and a public speaking workshop that encouraged young girls to find their voice and use it with confidence.

Spring Break brought two YOUth Retreats to Camp Yowochas, each meeting youth where they were. The TradeUP Retreat opened doors for girls to explore the trades and imagine new career possibilities, while the Spring YOUth Retreat helped participants better understand healthy friendships and the role of connection in their lives.

In the fall, Youth Programming reached an important turning point with the launch of YWCA Edmonton's first co-ed YOUth Retreat at Camp Yowochas. This shift reflected both changing needs and growing perspectives, helping to foster leadership, confidence and belonging for kids of all genders.

This year's programming supported 87 youth in developing essential life skills, including financial literacy and civic engagement, helping them move forward with confidence in a world shaped by change.

Buffalo Spirit Camp

Buffalo Spirit Camp, held at the end of August at Camp Yowochas, marked a meaningful new chapter in YWCA Edmonton's youth programming. Delivered in partnership with Paul First Nation, the camp was created in response to community voices calling for culturally grounded, land-based healing opportunities for Indigenous youth.

Centred on Indigenous teachings and culture, Buffalo Spirit Camp offered participants space to build confidence and a sense of belonging through shared experiences guided by Elders and knowledge keepers. For many, it was an opportunity to step away from daily pressures and engage in healing in a setting rooted in connection and care.

Buffalo Spirit Camp reflects YWCA Edmonton's ongoing commitment to listening, learning, and shaping programs alongside community, creating space for healing that is both meaningful and lasting.



The Peck Visual Arts Program

Before YWCA Edmonton moved into the space on 124th street, the tall windows and open ceilings were home to multiple art galleries that displayed the best and brightest. The gallery lighting, polished concrete floors, and colourful walls of Bellamy Salon carry on that legacy, making the space perfect for showcasing the next generation of gifted women artists.

In partnership with the Miller Art Gallery, YWCA Edmonton is proud to present the PECK Visual Arts Program. This ongoing partnership between Miller Art Gallery and YWCA Edmonton highlights women's creativity, perspective, and strength through art. Each featured artist brings a unique lens to identity and empowerment, using art as a space for connection and reflection. For 2025, three shows showcasing diverse artistic styles filled the space with colour and story.

Protect Her Peace – Charlene Johnson

Protect Her Peace is a deeply personal collection from Johnson that reflects the vulnerability she has carried since childhood as a Black woman growing up in Edmonton. Her work in this series explores themes of racial microaggressions, expectations and societal messages that have led to feelings of inadequacy. Reclaiming her power with the knowledge that she is enough, this series is a visual sanctuary—an invitation for Black women to escape judgment, assumptions and expectations, and step into a world of peace and serenity if only for a moment.



Little Drawings – Tracy White



White's *Little Drawings* series stems from a collection of small digital sketches that grew into larger works under the right conditions—an intuitive process that supports a space for reflection and repair. Through bold colour, shape and abstraction, White explores themes of play, childhood creativity, awe and wonder. Layering acrylic, collage and spontaneous marks, each piece navigates the tension between control and instinct and how that balance can lead to something surprising and sincere.

Her Palette, Her Portrait, Her Power – Alexis Marie Chute



In *Her Palette, Her Portrait, Her Power*, Chute's work explores the beauty and complexity of womanhood through colour, texture and emotion. Her pieces invite viewers to pause, feel and consider the ways women see themselves and the world around them.

Lead. Grow. Transform.

Our 2025-2030 Strategic Plan, launched in January, is the latest iteration of YWCA Edmonton's commitment to being a leader in equity and inclusion in the city of Edmonton and beyond. As we embark on this journey, we remain grounded in our values of excellence, empowerment and innovation, while constantly striving to create a world with equity, opportunity and choice for all. Our ongoing commitment to equity will ensure that we continue to create a world where all individuals are safe, empowered and able to thrive.

Strategic Plan



Women of Distinction

In 1982, YWCA Edmonton embarked on a new mission: celebrating and elevating the incredible women building the City of Edmonton and making our communities more equitable and inclusive places. The Women of Distinction Awards were an annual tradition until 2015. After 10 years away, Women of Distinction was revived for 2025 to begin the year with a celebration of the inspiring and groundbreaking work being done by women across Edmonton.

Over 40 nominations came in from passionate community members honouring women from every sector and industry, recognizing survivors turned advocates, academic and business leaders inspiring the next generation and artists and performers bringing light to communities in need.

The Women of Distinction Awards Luncheon on May 1 brought winners, nominators and community members engaged in the work of YWCA Edmonton to celebrate the women changing Edmonton for the better, working to break down barriers, champion equity, and open doors for others to thrive. All funds raised during the 2025 Women of Distinction Awards campaign support YWCA Edmonton's programs and services, helping the organization support and steward the next generation of distinguished women.



Congratulations to our 2025 Women of Distinction

TRAILBLAZER AWARD – Honouring visionary leaders whose lifelong dedication and contributions have broken barriers, set new standards, and redefined what is possible in their fields.

Jocelyn Verrault, an Isga Wiya (Stoney woman) from Alexis Nakota Sioux Nation, has dedicated her career to bridging Indigenous teachings with academic learning in Canada and beyond. A leader at Yellowhead Tribal College, she was the sole Canadian representative at UNESCO's 2024 International Conference on Learning Cities, where she spoke on honouring ancestral knowledge and empowering Indigenous women in STEM.

COMMUNITY CHANGEMAKER – Honouring those who lead with purpose to drive social change, inspire action, and champion safer, stronger communities.

Dunia Nur is redefining racial justice, gender equity, and community advocacy in Alberta through coalition-building and systemic change. As President and CEO of the African Canadian Civic Engagement Council, she has led groundbreaking initiatives, including advancing Impact of Race and Culture Assessments in Alberta's courts to support fairer outcomes for Black youth.

ARTS & CULTURE AWARD – Honouring those who enrich Edmonton's cultural landscape through artistic expression, performance, and creative leadership.

Dianne Meili weaves storytelling and community-building through her work as an artist, journalist and cultural leader. The great-granddaughter of Cree Elder Victoria Callihoo, she is the driving force behind the Skydancer Indigenous Cultural Centre in Spruce Grove, a beloved hub for Indigenous arts, culture and Truth and Reconciliation.

BUSINESS AND ENTREPRENEUR – Honouring entrepreneurs and business leaders who drive innovation and economic growth while championing equitable, inclusive business practices.

Bernie Kollman is a trusted advisor and connector in Alberta's capital region, drawing on more than 30 years of leadership and innovation experience to guide business and community leaders. Following a successful executive career at IBM, she has continued to shape the sector through board service, her work as a Forum Chair with MacKay CEO Forums, and her leadership in opening doors for girls and young women in technology and artificial intelligence.

EMERGING LEADER AWARD – Honouring young leaders taking initiative to challenge norms and drive impactful change for future generations.

Alexandra Ages has turned her lived experience into action, helping build safer and more just communities through survivor-led advocacy and systemic change. A policy expert and former executive director of the Council of Alberta University Students, she has led Alberta's first coordinated campus sexual violence prevention campaign and continues to push for accountability and empowerment for survivors, including women and trans people.

THE BELLAMY AWARD – In honour of YWCA Edmonton's first president Lorinda Bellamy (1907-1911), this award posthumously celebrates an extraordinary historic Edmonton woman and her contributions to our community.

Maud Bowman (1875-1944) was the driving force behind Edmonton's first permanent art gallery, co-founding what is now the Art Gallery of Alberta in 1924 and fiercely sustaining it through the Great Depression and World War II, often working without pay. As the AGA's first president and director, she expanded the permanent collection, launched an art education program that continues today, and left a legacy so enduring that a gallery space and public monument now bear her name.

2025 WOMEN OF DISTINCTION JURY

Su-Ling Goh

Sandra Muchekeza

Tina Thomas

Scott Graham

Sithara Naidoo

Katherine O'Neill
(ex-officio)



Rose Campaign

Ending gender-based violence takes everyone.

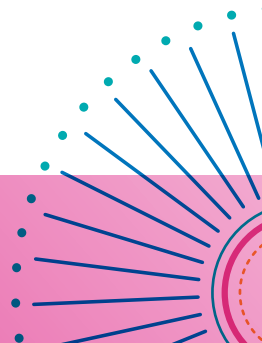
In 2025, the Rose Campaign reflected an important shift in how YWCA Edmonton approached this work, intentionally expanding the conversation to include men and boys as part of the solution. This change shaped the campaign's focus throughout the 16 Days of Activism, reinforcing the message that gender-based violence impacts us all and that lasting prevention requires shared responsibility across our community.

The 16-day Campaign ran from November 25 to December 16, beginning on the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women and ending on Human Rights Day. As our largest annual fundraiser, the Rose Campaign's message of how everyone is impacted by gender-based violence and how ending gender-based violence will take everyone resonated across Edmonton and beyond, reaching tens of thousands of community members across social and traditional media.

In the heart of Downtown, the Rose Launch filled Ford Hall at Rogers Place on November 24 with over 400 community champions passionate about YWCA Edmonton's work and ending gender-based violence. The evening event, intended to reach a broader audience and bring more supporters into the movement and on board with the Rose Campaign. The highlight of the event was the moving panel on engaging men and boys in the work to end violence with Jill Dean, President of Lives in Transition and advocate against gender-based violence following the loss of her sister; Len Rhodes, former President of the Edmonton Elks and survivor of childhood domestic violence; and Jake Stika, Executive Director of NextGen Men.

December 5 brought 250 leaders, activists and changemakers together at the Fairmont Hotel Macdonald for an inspiring breakfast about engaging men and boys to end gender-based violence. With keynote speaker Len Rhodes sharing his story of surviving domestic violence as a child and growing into a man who didn't feel safe disclosing his experience until he was in his 50s, attendees were inspired to step up and do their part.

The 2025 Rose Campaign raised over \$345,000 to support YWCA Edmonton's gender-based violence prevention programs, including accessible, expert mental health supports, healing retreats for survivors, and educational programming designed to help youth recognize and prevent violence before it happens. This record-breaking campaign is critical in ensuring the continuity of YWCA Edmonton's programs, and was all made possible by the support of the community.



“[The highlight of the event was] having men engaged and represented in the room. They are critical to moving this forward.”

Rose Breakfast attendee

Funder Spotlights

YWCA Edmonton recognizes the ongoing support of *TD* and *Leston Holdings*, whose generosity allowed us to hold both Women of Distinction and the Rose Campaign in 2025. TD has been a supporter of YWCA Edmonton’s work in the community for over a decade, helping ensure that YWCA Edmonton is able to respond to the changing needs of community. Leston Holdings sponsored Women of Distinction and the Rose Campaign, providing a reliable source of funding to ensure YWCA Edmonton’s work can continue to change lives across Edmonton.

Partner Spotlight – Bonafide Media & PR

The 2026 Rose Garden Party was made possible thanks to the generous support of Bonafide and A Cappella Catering. A Cappella brought in their Curbside Food Truck, introduced their brand-new cocktail bar, and provided staff to help the event run smoothly. Thanks to their support, we were able to welcome a record 150 attendees to the Rose Garden Party, engaging more community members months before the official campaign began in November. Bonafide has been a longtime partner and supporter of YWCA Edmonton; in 2025, they also sponsored the award recipients’ dinner for Women of Distinction and piloted their brand-new mobile cocktail bar at the YWCA Edmonton downtown office. Thank you Bonafide and A Cappella Catering.

ROSE COUNCIL

Felicia Michie, *Chair*

Anna Alfonso

Autumn Sorenson

Christa Eaton

Deborah Dodd

Dénes Németh

Jill Dean

Kira Gregson

Marilyn Cox

Mike Saunders

Mike Vivian

Morgan Edgar

Nafisa Bowen

Shannon Butler

Ted Bauer

Vandy Lipinski

Rose Impact Video





Supporting the Community

Community is central to YWCA Edmonton's identity and every area of work we do. As communities change, evolve and grow, YWCA Edmonton is part of those processes and committed to working with like-minded people and organizations to build safer, stronger communities together.

DirectHer

The DirectHer Network is a comprehensive resource focused on making sure women have the skills and confidence they need to succeed in board leadership. As the new home of DirectHer, YWCA Edmonton offers free video resources to anyone interested in board service to ensure board governance can be accessible to the women who have the power to make change for the people who need it most.

King Charles II Coronation Medals

YWCA Edmonton was thrilled to present the King Charles II Coronation Medals to two community champions whose work has transformed the lives of people across Edmonton. Only 30,000 medals were awarded across Canada to honour significant contributions.

Jean Funk is a legacy outdoor educator whose work has helped define outdoor education in Alberta since the 1970s. Now working at Strathcona Wilderness Centre, her leadership was instrumental in saving Camp Yowochas and allowing it to become the highly regarded centre that it is today.

Stephanie Harpe is a celebrated Indigenous activist and advocate whose tireless work to give voice to the Missing, Murdered and Exploited Indigenous Peoples crisis. A survivor herself, Stephanie also works closely with YWCA Edmonton to offer Healing Haven, an Indigenous-led program to support the families and survivors of the MMEIP crisis.

YWCA Edmonton is honoured to know and continue to work with Jean and Stephanie to build stronger communities.

National Advocacy. Community Action.

In September, YWCA Edmonton welcomed the Honourable Rechie Valdez, Minister of Women and Gender Equality and the Honourable Nathalie Provost, Secretary of State (Nature) and 2024 Rose Campaign alumnus. YWCA Edmonton is regularly in close conversation with governments at the municipal, provincial and federal level, advocating for policy and changes that support women and gender-diverse people.



Fiscal Partners

YWCA Edmonton is proud to serve as a fiscal agent for small, grassroots organizations supporting women and girls across Edmonton and beyond. Through these partnerships, we provide administrative and financial supports tailored to the unique needs of each organization, allowing them to focus their energy on delivering programs, building community and telling their own stories.

Shine Bright Be Fearless was created by a group of young women in Edmonton to empower and inspire young girls as they transition to high school.

Girls in Sports Canada is a community organization that works to help girls grow their confidence through physical activity and sports so they can become the changemakers and barrier-breakers of the future.

GROW Women Leaders is dedicated to empowering women, especially those from immigrant and Black, Indigenous, Women of Colour (BIWoC) backgrounds, by providing meaningful employment opportunities and promoting equity, diversity, inclusivity and accessibility in the workplace.

The Shoe Project is a powerful community storytelling initiative featured in the SkirtsAfire Festival, where immigrant and newcomer women share personal stories of journey, identity and belonging through original monologues inspired by a meaningful pair of shoes.

Thank you to our community partners who used our spaces in 2025:

124 Street & Area Business Association

Business & Professional Women of Edmonton

Chanticleer Condo Association

Cornerstone Counselling

Edmonton Calligraphic Society

Erin Davis

IDEE

Wihkwentôwin Community League



Funders

City of Edmonton

Family and Community Support Services

Government of Alberta

Disability Services (Family Supports for Children with Disabilities)

Disability Services, North Zone
(Seniors, Community and Social Services)

Children and Family Services, Edmonton Region

Children's Services, North Region

Government of Northwest Territories

Dehcho Health & Social Services Authority

Northwest Territories Health & Social Services

Government of the Northwest Territories

Government of Nunavut

Kitikmeot Family Wellness

Department of Family Services

Cambridge Bay, NU

United Way of the Alberta Capital Region

Our Supporters

STRATEGIC PARTNERS (\$100,000+)

United Way of the Alberta
Capital Region

CHAMPIONS (\$50,000-\$99,999)

Edmonton Community Foundation
Eldon & Anne Foote Fund*
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Indigenous Relations

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COLLABORATORS (\$5,000-\$9,999)

AIMCo
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West Edmonton Mall

COMMUNITY BUILDERS (\$1,500-\$4,999)

Alberta Counsel
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Beevee Virtual Assistant & Backroad
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Brownlee LLP
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Christina Luison
City Of Edmonton
Deborah Choma
Dénes Németh
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Fiona Hay
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Gail Stepanik-Keber +
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Roger & Peggy Gouin Fund*
Ross McBain Charitable Gift Fund
Rotary Edmonton Downtown
Shannon Butler & Mike Slobodan
Wolfe Pack Warriors Foundation
YWCA Fund*

ADVOCATES (\$500-\$1,499)

Aaron Strand
African Canadian Civic
Engagement Council
Alison Altmiks
Alyssa Lefairve Škopac +
Amarjeet & Sarbjeet Sohi +
Ann Marie Heffernan
Barbara G. Blackley Fund*
Barbara Stratton
Berlin Advertising &
Public Relations Inc.
Bill Pannebaker +
Carmen Bara

* Fund held at Edmonton Community Foundation

+ Monthly Donor

Bold indicates a company or organization

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Carson Integrated Ltd.
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YMCA of Northern Alberta
YWCA Stewardship Fund*

GIFT-IN-KIND

A Cappella Catering
Above & Beyond
Promotions
Acquired Tea
Amy Dixon Art
Andrea Yacyshyn
Birchwood Meadows
Booster Juice
Cloud Nine Pajamas
CTV
Edify
Edmonton International
Airport – YEG
Fairmont Hotel Macdonald
Fairmont Jasper Park Lodge
Go Auto
Jacek Chocolates
LumberJill Apparel
May Restaurant
Mr. Nice Socks
Nakatsui Dermatology
Poppy Barley
Pura Botanicals
River City Events
SABOR Restaurant
The Italian Centre
Vine Arts
WestJet
Wolfe Automotive Group
Yogalife

Report of the Independent Auditor on the Summary Financial Statements

To the Members and Directors of YWCA Edmonton:

Opinion

The summary financial statements, which comprise the summary statement of financial position as at December 31, 2025, and the summary statement of operations for the year then ended, and related note, are derived from the audited financial statements of YWCA Edmonton (the "Association") for the year ended December 31, 2025.

In our opinion, the accompanying summary financial statements are a fair summary of the audited financial statements, on the basis described in the Note to the summary financial statements.

Summary Financial Statements

The summary financial statements do not contain all the disclosures required by Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations. Reading the summary financial statements and the auditor's report thereon, therefore, is not a substitute for reading the audited financial statements and the auditor's report thereon. The summary financial statements and the audited financial statements do not reflect the effects of events that occurred subsequent to the date of our report on the audited financial statements.

The Audited Financial Statements and Our Report Thereon

We expressed an unmodified audit opinion on the audited financial statements in our report dated March 25, 2026.

Management's Responsibility for the Summary Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation of the summary financial statements on the basis described in the Note to the summary financial statements.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on whether the summary financial statements are a fair summary of the audited financial statements based on our procedures, which were conducted in accordance with Canadian Auditing Standards (CAS) 810, Engagements to Report on Summary Financial Statements.

Edmonton, Alberta
March 27, 2026


Chartered Professional Accountants

Statement of Financial Position

As at December 31, 2025

	2025	2024
ASSETS		
Current Assets	3,838,905	5,046,495
Capital Assets	1,845,840	1,317,144
	5,684,745	6,363,639
LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	294,209	321,036
Grant funding repayable and expired contract	-	67,410
Deferred revenue	1,132,311	2,298,010
Leasehold inducements	506,717	514,300
Unamortized deferred capital asset contributions	603,174	341,062
	2,536,411	3,541,818
Net Assets	3,148,334	2,821,821
	5,684,745	6,363,639

Statement of Operations

For the year ended December 31, 2025

	2025	2024
REVENUE		
Fees for service	11,399,346	11,162,064
Government contracts	1,503,573	1,485,282
Other government and foundation grants	693,938	754,329
Counselling centre	633,690	561,036
Donations and fundraising	548,994	376,912
Other	214,729	88,122
Casino	13,117	9,985
	15,007,387	14,437,730
EXPENSES		
Purchased services	6,310,820	5,953,296
Salaries, wages and employee benefits	5,490,835	5,418,379
General and administrative expenses	2,021,345	1,958,350
Counselling centre	739,075	632,674
YWCA Canada affiliation fee	100,833	98,666
	14,662,908	14,061,365
Excess of revenue over expenses before other items	344,479	376,365
Other items	(17,966)	149,975
Excess of revenue over expenses	326,513	526,340

2025 Treasurer's Letter

YWCA Edmonton had another solid year in 2025, marked by careful financial stewardship, strong community support and a continued focus on delivering essential programs and services. Despite a challenging funding environment, the organization remained on budget and ended the year with a surplus of \$344,479 before other items. This result reflects prudent financial management and a disciplined approach to managing expenses as some revenue sources declined.

Fundraising continued to be a significant strength. Both the Rose Campaign and the revived Women of Distinction awards exceeded expectations, demonstrating the deep commitment of our community to YWCA Edmonton's mission. We also saw a notable increase in major gifts, the result of intentional relationship building and stewardship over the past several years.

At the same time, the broader funding landscape presented challenges, with grant revenues lower year over year. These shifts required thoughtful adjustments while ensuring critical services continued to reach those who need them most.

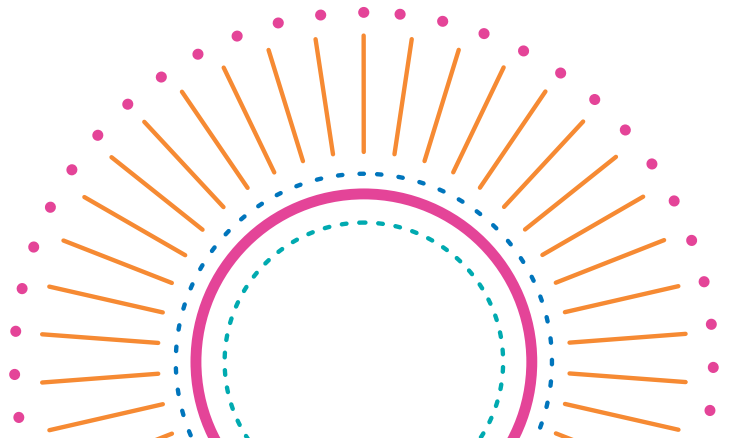
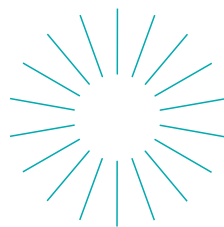
Camp Yowochas had a strong summer season, operating at approximately 92% capacity. Pricing for outdoor education programs was also updated for the first time in more than a decade, an important step in strengthening the long-term financial sustainability of the camp. However, a teachers' strike led to the cancellation of most fall outdoor education bookings, resulting in the camp operating at a deficit for the year.

Ending the year with a surplus reflects the resilience of the organization and the dedication of the staff, volunteers and leadership who carefully steward our resources. I would like to extend my sincere thanks to the Finance & Audit Committee for their expertise and oversight, as well as to our funders, donors and community partners. Your support makes it possible for YWCA Edmonton to continue providing essential services and advancing our mission of empowering women, girls and gender-diverse individuals.

Looking ahead, we recognize that the environments in which we operate will continue to evolve. YWCA Edmonton has always been shaped by change, adapting to emerging community needs while remaining grounded in strong financial stewardship. With thoughtful planning and the continued support of our community, I am confident we will continue to grow our impact in the years ahead.



May Han
Treasurer
YWCA Edmonton Board of Directors

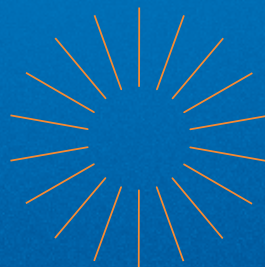


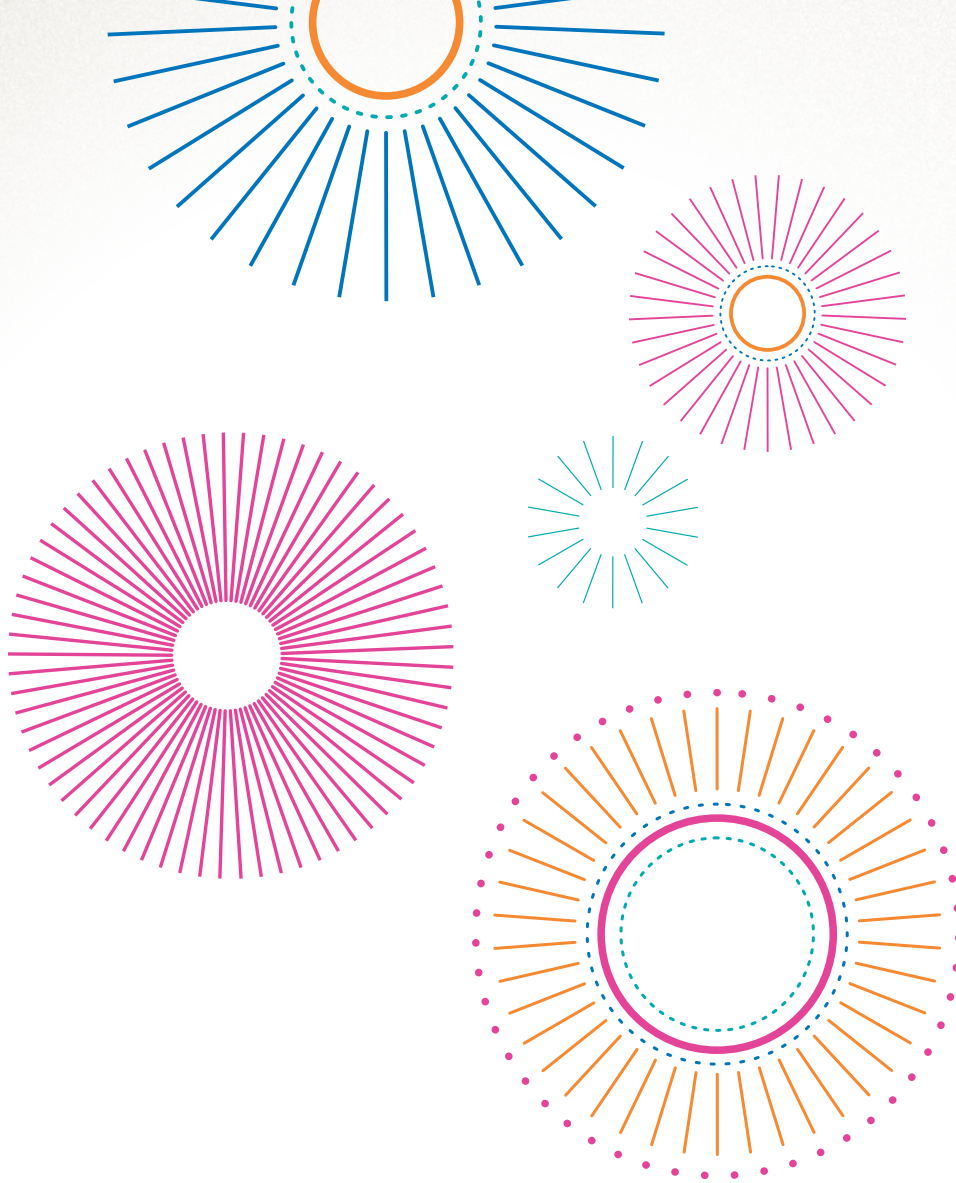
Ways to Give

Since 1907, YWCA Edmonton has been responding to the changing needs of the community. Every change YWCA Edmonton has undergone in over a century has been made possible by the support of generous donors. Your continued support helps us remain a leader in excellent programming and services, offering trauma-informed, subsidized counselling, holistic support to people with disabilities, life skills for youth, and outdoor experiences that empower thousands of kids and families annually.

You can shape future changes for YWCA Edmonton:

Make A One-Time Gift	Every donation helps us make a difference
Become A Monthly Supporter	With your monthly support, you help create long-term, sustainable solutions that meet the needs of our city.
Make A Gift In Honour	Make a donation in memory or honour of someone special or to celebrate a momentous occasion.
Join Our Legacy Circle	Make YWCA Edmonton part of your legacy through a bequest in your will.
Lead A Community Event	Hosting a community event is a fun and effective way to raise funds and engage your family, friends, coworkers, and community members in our work.
Employee Giving At Work	Consider us in your annual employee giving campaigns. Bring us in for speaking engagements, lunch & learn workshops, and other learning opportunities.
Gift Of Stock	Donate publicly traded securities for maximum impact and desired tax benefits.
Give The Gift Of Time	Volunteering at YWCA Edmonton allows you to make an impact in your community, learn new skills, and gain experience that can help you grow personally and professionally.





10402 124 Street, Edmonton, AB T5N 1R5
Treaty 6 Territory
ywcaofedmonton.org

YWCA Edmonton is a safe space that welcomes and supports all members of the 2SLGBTQ+ community.

Charitable Registration Number: 108227935RR0001

