

United. Here.



Welcome to United. Here.

Your quarterly newsletter from United Way BC dives into inspiring stories and exciting updates from across the province, highlighting our work to help those in need.

In this issue:

- Update on the Kapwa Fund
- Period Promise campaign wraps up
- Emergency Response monitors wildfire threat
- Food Security campaign update
- Hi Neighbour program launch in Kamloops
- Spotlight: Indigenous Priorities

United Way British Columbia acknowledges the homelands of the Indigenous Peoples of this place we now call British Columbia, and honours the many territorial keepers of the Lands on which we work. [Read full territorial acknowledgement](#)

Our Collective Impact



[Learn more about Kapwa Fund](#)

Kapwa Fund surpasses goal

Thanks to your unwavering support, **we raised \$1.7 million (and counting) – surpassing our \$1 million goal!** All funds raised will go directly to supporting those affected by the tragedy at the Lapu Lapu Festival.

Kapwa is a core value in the Filipino culture, representing shared humanity, interconnectedness, and community. Here's how the fund is making a difference:

- Trauma counselling & long-term mental health support
- Essential needs like meal and gas vouchers to visit loved ones in hospital
- Help navigating resources through 211 British Columbia and VictimLinkBC, and coordinating volunteer opportunities

Grief and healing take time, and we remain committed to supporting the community for the days, weeks, and months to come.

Period products for all

Lack of access to menstrual products affects 1-in-4 people, leaving 25% of British Columbians having to choose period products over essentials like food. It's why we created the Period Promise campaign, to increase access to free menstrual products in our communities.

This year, our presenting sponsor Pacific Blue Cross matched all monetary donations up to \$25,000! Thanks also go out to CUPE 1816, and product sponsors Always and Tampax, for their support of this year's campaign!

Products are now being distributed to communities across the province.

Learn more about Period Promise
or get involved!



Follow our work to support British
Columbians affected by wildfires

Emergency Response team ready

In early May, United Way BC activated our emergency response & recovery team to monitor the increase in wildfire activity in the North as well as areas like Squamish and Vancouver Island.

While fires are not currently threatening homes and communities, we remain in 'response' mode, ready to help at a moment's notice.

Food Security Fund update

In March, we learned of significant need in our communities due to inflation and cost increases due to tariffs, so we jumped into action to generate donations for our food security sites across the province.

Thanks to our donors, we raised \$15,000 in just a few short weeks!

Like you, we fear the continued increase in food costs will affect our neighbours for the foreseeable future. Watch your email and our website throughout the year for more opportunities to help.



Donate to the Food Security Fund at any time at uwbc.ca

Do you know how many British Columbians are affected by food insecurity?

Lack of food affects physical and mental health, as well as the ability to work and maintain personal relationships. Do you know how many British Columbians lack consistent access to sufficient nutritious food?

2,000

20,000

500,000

1.1 million

Regional Update: Thompson Nicola Cariboo



Hi Neighbour lands in Kamloops!

The goal during last year's workplace campaign was to raise enough money to establish a Hi Neighbour program in the Thompson Nicola Cariboo region – and we're happy to share that we've done it! Together with our workplace partners and donors, we are thrilled to introduce our new community engagement coordinator in Kamloops: **Sam Bregoliss.**

Hear from Sam directly all the positive things he's planning!

Spotlight: Indigenous Priorities



Learn more about Indigenous
Priorities at United Way BC

Celebrating Indigenous initiatives

June is National Indigenous History Month! On Saturday (June 21), we celebrate Indigenous Peoples Day. In honour of this event, we wanted to update you on the incredible work our Indigenous Priorities team has done to highlight major challenges we still face today.

Red Dress Day

In Canada, Indigenous women and girls are disproportionately victimized by violence. Each murdered and missing woman and girl is a tragedy rooted in systemic, colonial violence. We stand with the families of the missing and murdered women and girls, honour their memories, and work to familiarize ourselves with the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls for Justice and support ongoing efforts to implement them.

Moose Hide Campaign

On May 15th, we joined over half a million people in ceremony and solidarity, aiming to end violence against women and children. The Moose Hide Campaign is grounded in Indigenous traditions of learning and healing. By wearing and sharing our moose hide pins, we are signifying our commitment to honour, respect, and protect the women and children in our lives and speak out against gender-based and domestic violence.
