

Annual Report

125 years of *Literacy in action*



EST. 1899

United for Literacy
Littératie Ensemble



September 2025

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT AND CEO

Mélanie Valcin



At United for Literacy, our mission has always been simple yet impactful: to make sure everyone in Canada has the literacy skills they need to succeed.

In 2024, we supported 39,531 children, youth, and adults across the country. Children engaged in school-based programs and Reading Circles, while adults benefitted from high-school equivalency prep, digital upskilling, foundational literacy support, and more.

For 125 years, we've evolved alongside the communities we serve. Our name may have changed, but our purpose hasn't. As United for Literacy, we continue a legacy rooted in connection, adaptability, and trust. We offer small group and individual tutoring, foundational literacy support, digital upskilling, and other learner-centered programming that serves learners in big cities, small towns, and remote communities across the country.

Our programs help people reconnect with learning, build confidence, access new opportunities, and feel supported. Through our National Online Adult Literacy (NOAL) program, for example, adults gain literacy and digital skills no matter where they live. And in Saskatchewan, our Comic Book Club helps young learners engage with reading in a way that feels fun and empowering. One parent told us their daughter "cried happy tears" after being selected for the club. These are the moments where confidence and connection take root.

What makes our approach different is our commitment to collaboration. We don't drop in with ready-made solutions. We listen, partner, and co-create solutions with communities, local organizations, volunteers, and learners themselves. Every literacy program is built with the needs of its participants in mind. This learner-centered design is what makes our work effective and long-lasting. As the world continues to evolve, so do we, expanding access to learning that is inclusive, relevant, and available both online and in person.

We're proud of where we've been and excited about what's ahead. Thanks to your support, we'll keep breaking down barriers and putting literacy into action—one learner, one community, and one connection at a time.

Mélanie Valcin

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

John Wiltshire



As Chair of the Board, I have the privilege of supporting an organization with a remarkable legacy as it evolves to meet the future. For 125 years, United for Literacy has been a part of the Canadian landscape, providing essential literacy support with relevance, agility, and heart.

When I think about what lies ahead, I see an organization that builds on its strengths while reimagining its future. We are always looking at how to do more, and do better, for the people and communities who need us.

As we complete a five-year strategic plan, we look to the future with a new plan that was shaped with input from staff, learners, volunteers, supporters, and community partners. It reflects a collective commitment to meeting people where they are, with programs that are inclusive, responsive, and grounded in lived experience. Whether it's developing new ways to reach learners, strengthen partnerships in underserved regions, or deepen our learner-centered approach, this plan will help us evolve with purpose.

We are also thinking critically about what literacy looks like in 2025 and beyond. It is not just about reading and writing. It includes digital skills, media navigation, financial understanding, and the confidence to engage fully in society. Our programs reflect that reality. Along with our partners, from national organizations to small community groups, we are co-creating literacy solutions that have a deep impact.

It gives me hope to see the energy and dedication I see from everyone involved in United for Literacy. Volunteers are trained to respond to learners' needs. Learners strive to attain new skills. Frontline staff create individualized literacy programs. Others work behind the scenes to ensure the organization runs smoothly. This passion is what will carry us into the future, where every interaction is meaningful, empowering, and respectful.

This next chapter is all about innovation and deepening our impact. It's about staying true to our mission while being bold enough to ask what else is possible. I believe in where we are headed, and I'm honoured to be part of the journey.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, thank you for your continued support and belief in this work.

John Wiltshire

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Then



Now



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Principal, Strategic Asset
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Ontario Teachers'
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John Wiltshire (Ex-officio)

Former President & CEO, Canadian
Marketing Association



SUPPORTING YOUNG LEARNERS ON THEIR JOURNEY

In the '80s and '90s, Frontier College decided that building a reading culture across Canada meant focusing on children, especially in areas where there was little support outside of school.

Then

This led to the creation of two dynamic programs: **Students for Literacy** and **READ Canada**. Staff were hired to screen and train university and college student volunteers to run reading circles, homework clubs, and reading tents: places to encourage reading outside of the formal structure of the classroom. This group of young, energetic volunteers led the way for decades of student-led children's programs that encourage curiosity and promote the joy of reading.



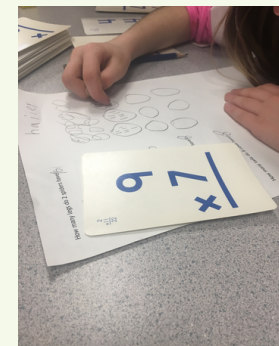
Picture circa 2019, Toronto, ON

Now

Today, university students are still integral to our organization and provide vital volunteer time and mentorship to young learners. By leading programs that get children excited about math, coding, and financial literacy, students help the next generation understand money and technology while growing their own leadership skills.

One exciting initiative from the National Student Success Program in Waterloo, ON is **Number Ninjas**. This is a free, interactive numeracy program for learners in Grades 1-3. Each week focuses on a different concept for the whole group, followed by one-to-one practice. Children have fun while building a strong foundation in math. Having a place to learn new things in a fun way helps young people feel excited to build on their knowledge when they're in school.

By volunteering with Number Ninjas or any of our programs, university students build mentorship and teaching skills, make connections, and see the positive impact they make on the next generation. This impact includes inspiring young program participants to become volunteers when they grow up, which strengthens the individual's connection to their community and fortifies a culture of curiosity and learning across Canada.





SUPPORTING ADULTS FOR FUTURE-READY SKILLS

The origin of United for Literacy (formerly Frontier College) was founded on belief that all adults should have access to literacy support. Over the years, we have adapted and innovated to meet the needs of people seeking learning support.

Then

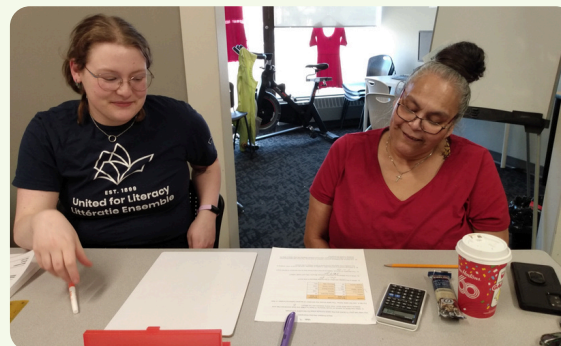
One of our most impactful programs began in 1985 when two young men partnered with Frontier College to form **Beat the Street** to teach street-involved youth to read. There were no illusions that reading would instantly make life perfect for the learners, many of whom had addiction issues and regularly faced violence. However, it was an important step in improving lives. Participants often said that reading gave them dignity. The facilitators and learners had similar first-hand experience, which built mutual respect and trust. Beat the Street evolved into a structured program with instructors, volunteers, and learners working in a classroom. This program ran until 2023 when it was replaced with **New Directions**.



Now

Two programs providing support for adult learners today are **New Directions** and **Learn Outside the Box**. In 2024, the Canadian Adult Education Credential (CAEC) replaced the General Educational Development (GED®) as the Canadian high school equivalency exam. We adapted to work with adults seeking to attain this life-changing credential.

In Ontario, **New Directions** is free for adults (19+) who want to improve their knowledge and skills to access job opportunities and post-secondary education. In addition to earning the CAEC, learners can attend a Summer Book Club, a Soft Skills Workshop with Woodgreen Community Services, or the Wellness Through Words program with the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH).



In Winnipeg, **Learn Outside the Box (LOTB)** supports learners aged 19-25 as they review CAEC course material. This six-week intensive course started in 2021 and addresses some of the barriers to success by offering help with food costs and transportation and providing an honorarium for attending.



Shoshanna joined United for Literacy's GED Intensive program in 2022, later transitioned to adult education courses, and proudly earned her high school diploma in 2025. Now she's on to college!

STRENGTH IN NUMBERS

Our Programs Programs by Age Group



CHILDREN
59.52%



FAMILIES
17.65%



ADULTS
13.31%



YOUTH
9.52%

Programs offered by Program Type

Large Group* **66.01%**

Summer Camp **7.97%**

Tutoring **26.02%**



*Programming offered once or over a short period to multiple participants, with lower intensity of interaction. Includes trainings, workshops, awareness events, community gatherings, parent sessions, conferences, and reading tents.

39,531

people in 180
communities across
Canada participated
in United for Literacy
Programs.



3,150

children participated in
literacy camps in
90 Indigenous
communities last
summer.

97%

of parents said their child
likes reading more after
attending camp.

90%

of campers said they
considered themselves
to be a "good reader"
after camp.

4,883

activity kits were sent to
children, youth, and
families to support at-
home learning.

1,365

volunteers gave
31,882 hours of service
to United for Literacy.

89%

of tutors felt
improvement in their
communication skills

220

people were employed
through our Summer
Literacy Camps; **66%**
were hired from
Indigenous host
communities.

54,905

free, new books
distributed to children
and families.



54

literacy workshops and
conferences were
attended by **3,337**
parents, teachers,
literacy practitioners,
social service workers,
and community
members.

We collaborated with

489

community partners to
deliver quality literacy
support in their
neighbourhoods.

WHAT SUCCESS LOOKS LIKE

Student success programs for children and youth

Percentage of children and youth who improved their skills during 2024–2025:

Reading 94%

Writing 90%

Mathematics 85%

84%

of parents observed that their **child's reading skills improved** after participating in the United for Literacy program.

90%

of parents observed an **improvement** in their **children's confidence**.

87%

of teachers and educators observed an **improvement in reading**.



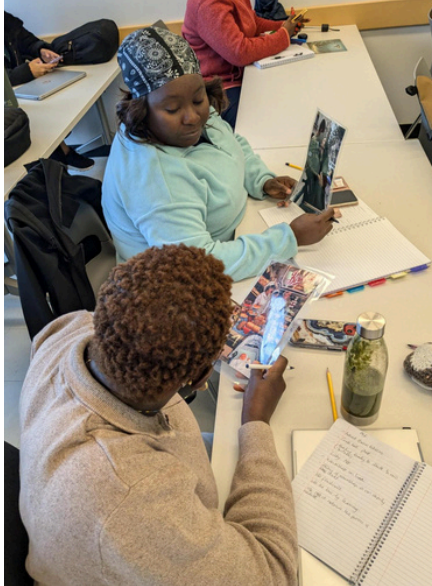
Summer Literacy Camps with Indigenous Communities

95% of hired camp counsellors said working at camp **strengthened their employment skills**.

97% of campers felt that attending camp **maintained or raised their interest in reading and learning**.

99% of parents said camps were **valuable to their community**.





Life success programs for adults and out-of-school youth

Percentage of adults and out-of-school youth who improved their skills during 2024-2025:

Reading 97%

Writing 96%

Document use 94%

Technology use 89%

98% of learners feel that they have gained skills they need to achieve their specific life goals.

100% of tutors noticed that adult learners show increased confidence after attending a program at United for Literacy.

96% of tutors observed that their learners improved their reading skills after participating in the United for Literacy program.

HONOURING OUR HISTORIAN

Dr. James Morrison is United for Literacy's longstanding historian and board member. We would like to share his ongoing and outstanding contributions to the cause of literacy with you.

Then

Jim Morrison began his affiliation with United for Literacy (formerly Frontier College) as a Labourer-Teacher in the 1964. In his first year, he worked on the steel gang with the Canadian Pacific Railway during the summer break from university. The following year, he went to Dog River, Ontario to work with the men at the Great Lakes Paper Company. Like many youth at the time, his introduction to the organization was memorable: "I saw an advertisement up on the wall that advertised Frontier College, which said, "Hard work, low pay, all the blackflies you can eat. Apply to Frontier College for the experience of a lifetime."



Jim on Sunday washing clothes. Black barrel of hot water on the right.



Agi Gustino and Jim just before they entered the Rockies. Agi always wanted Jim to write his letters in English to his girlfriend back east.

Now

Today, Dr. James H. Morrison, CM, Ph. D., B.A., B.Ed. is the recipient of multiple honours, including the Order of Canada, for his work in oral history methodology. Starting his career in Africa, he moved home to Nova Scotia so his wife could pursue her own career in physiotherapy and to raise their family at home. As a professor at St. Mary's University and author of three books about United for Literacy's role in the promotion of education in Canada, he is a lifelong champion for literacy.

As our board member and in-house historian, Jim's commitment to this organization is invaluable. We are grateful for every question he answers in his thoughtful and generous manner.

If you'd like to learn more about James and his experiences with United for literacy, please read [the article on our website](#).



Jim holding a copy of his book "The Right to Read: Social Justice, Literacy, and the Creation of Frontier College / The Alfred Fitzpatrick Story."



Jim Q&A session on the life of Alfred Fitzpatrick.

CELEBRATING 125 YEARS OF EMPOWERMENT THROUGH LITERACY

In the summer of 2024, to celebrate 125 years of empowerment through literacy, United for Literacy hosted Reading Tents across the country. On the right is a list of cities that took part in the celebrations.

These events featured special guests, engaging stories, delicious snacks, and free books!

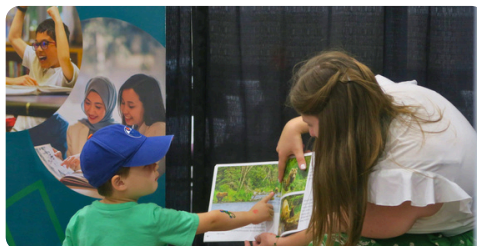


To honour over a century of literacy work, CCUNESCO partnered with United for Literacy to support our 125th Anniversary Reading Tents held across the country.

We have played an important role in bringing about broader literacy. We're now in a situation where we read or see something.... How do we know if it's true or not? It's a big job to unfold. We can't do it alone.

Dr. James Morrison, United for Literacy Historian

Below are snapshots taken at anniversary celebrations across the country, including: Grande Prairie, AB; Thunder Bay, ON; Edmonton, AB; Quebec City, QC; Winnipeg, MB.



British Columbia

Vancouver

Alberta

Calgary

Edmonton

Grande Prairie

Lethbridge

Saskatchewan

Saskatoon

Manitoba

Winnipeg

Selkirk

Ontario

Thunder Bay

Longlac, Geraldton, and Nakina

Scarborough

Kitchener-Waterloo

Guelph

Sudbury

North Bay

Ottawa

Toronto

Quebec

Montreal

Sherbrooke

Quebec City

New Brunswick

Moncton

Fredericton

Nova Scotia

Dartmouth

Fisherman's Cove

Halifax

Preston Township

Truro-Wolfville-Antigonis

More stories from across the country...



Pictou Academy students welcome United for Literacy staff in celebration of Albert Fitzpatrick, founder of Frontier College, and the 125th anniversary.



We spent 10 days at the Winnipeg Fringe Festival with our Reading Tent. During the event, we featured the books *Chaiwala!* and *Brady Brady and the Cleanup Hitters*.



Alyse (United for Literacy), City Councillor Karen Principe, and MP Ziad Aboultaif at the Edmonton Heritage Fest. Wonderful to be recognized by the City of Edmonton!



United for Literacy staff, volunteers, summer interns, and special guest Mayor Mike Savage at Fisherman's Cove in Eastern Passage, NS.



Lise Vaugois, MPP for Thunder Bay, ON-Superior North, present Jessica and Elizabeth, from United for Literacy, with a certificate of congratulations.



The Nova Scotia team celebrates Emancipation Day with Senator Wanda Thomas-Bernard who attended our 125th tent in East Preston, NS.



**For more about the 125th,
click here.**



We invite you to watch **Senator Bernard** speak about and congratulate United for Literacy in the senate.
<https://bit.ly/Senator-Thomas-Bernard>



Scan the QR code

FROM COAST TO COAST TO COAST

Literacy stories from every province



Yukon

Since 2012, we've partnered with the Yukon Government, Canadian Tire, and Northern Vision Development to support newcomers with language and job skills. In 2024–2025, the program expanded to include soft skills and WHMIS certification.



Nunavut

In response to housing shortages in the North, our programs support construction workers facing low literacy and math skills, limited access to pre-trades programs, and confidence barriers. Last year, over 50 learners accessed free skill-upgrading services through partnerships with local businesses and organizations.



British Columbia

At the Britannia Secondary Homework Club, we offer tutoring, mentorship, and university application help to students in East Vancouver. In the past year, over 335 learners were supported by 667 volunteer hours, promoting academic and personal growth.



Alberta

In Lethbridge, we partnered with Opokaa'sin Early Intervention Society to provide one-to-one literacy and numeracy support to 21 kindergarten students. We also ran a Board Game Club for 20 students in Grades 2–6, building confidence and helping learners catch up in a fun, supportive environment.



Saskatchewan

In 2025, we ran the Comic Book Club with SaskAbilities and local schools, engaging over 100 youth aged 7–12 in addition to adults with intellectual disabilities. Supported by the Community Initiatives Fund, the program has been running since 2015.



Manitoba

We began a new partnership with Westman Immigrant Services and offered two in-person after-school and two online tutoring programs, supported by the Brandon Area Community Foundation. We reached 75 learners aged 5–15.

FROM COAST TO COAST TO COAST

Literacy stories from every province



* Newfoundland and Labrador

Our Community Literacy Catalyst worked with area stakeholders to plan the creation of year-round opportunities to explore, revitalize, share, and experience vital Indigenous culture, both traditional and emerging.



Quebec

Funded by R3USSIR, the "Soutien aux parents allophones" program supported 86 adults with weekly tutoring, helping parents build skills and confidence to support their children's education.

* Prince Edward Island

A new weekly English as an Additional Language (EAL) Conversation Group at the Summerside Library supported 20 adult immigrants and refugees.

New Brunswick *

We've run the English as an Additional Language (EAL) program at George Street Middle School for over a decade. In 2024, we served 34 newcomers with support from 20 volunteers. The program has since expanded to Saint John and Moncton.



Nova Scotia

In Halifax, we supported 22 adults and children weekly with English lessons through Immigrant Families Learning Together, aided by 16 volunteers. The program was hosted by Cunard Learning Centre and funded by the Family Literacy Initiative Endowment Fund.



Ontario

We partnered with local groups to run free Summer Literacy Camps in 25 Ontario communities, serving Indigenous children with literacy, arts, and STEM activities, and employing youth as counsellors.



SUPPORTING NEW CANADIANS THROUGH LITERACY

From our earliest days, United for Literacy has supported people who want to improve their literacy, which means different things to our wide range of learners. This includes supporting newcomers who are learning English and French, studying for the Canadian citizenship exam, and attempting to understand new customs, cultures, and systems.

Then

When Frontier College began, Labourer-Teachers (LTs) worked with men in mines, on the railroad, and at logging camps. Reading, writing, and navigating government systems like paying taxes and citizenship applications were central to the support LTs provided with the aim of enriching lives through literacy. Some learners were born in Canada; others came from all over the world hoping to forge a new life in this beautiful country. Our “all welcome” approach to learning was true in the beginning, and it remains true today.



Jean La Fleche (left), a McGill University undergraduate, teaches construction workers near Mattawa, in the Province of Ontario.

Now

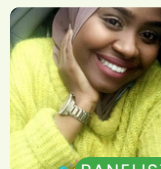
In 2024, United for Literacy hosted a national forum: Literacy and Immigration: The Power of Literacy in Navigating the Immigration Experience. While every newcomer to Canada has a unique experience, literacy is a common factor since it is a foundational tool for newcomers to Canada to thrive. The immigration process can be full of challenges, including finding sustainable employment and housing without a credit history or local experience, comprehending laws and customs, and attaining the communications requirements for gaining Canadian citizenship (e.g., understanding simple instructions, basic grammar, being able to express oneself). For those with lower literacy skills (some even learning a third or fourth language), the challenges are even greater. We provide learning support that is culturally responsive and flexible to help each learner achieve their goals and have a smoother transition to life in Canada.



HOST

**Yves-Gérard
Méhou-Loko**

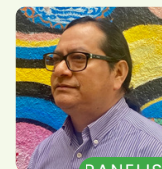
Secretary-General of the
Canadian Commission
for UNESCO (CCUNESCO).



PANELIST

**Faduma
Musse**

Executive Director of
the Somali Canadian
Association of
Waterloo Region, ON.



PANELIST

**Jeremias
Tecu**

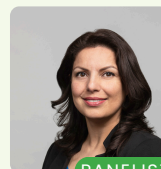
Lead Settlement
Worker in Schools in
Fredericton, NB.



PANELIST

Naim Demolli

Learner at United for
Literacy, and real estate
agent, Hamilton and
Burlington area, ON.



PANELIST

**Parisa
Mahboubi**

Senior Policy Analyst
and Lead of the C.D.
Howe Institute Human
Capital Policy
Program, Toronto, ON.



PANELIST

**Venantie
Nutmende**

Community Coordinator,
United for Literacy, MB.



[Click here to watch the video on United for Literacy's Youtube channel.](#)

FIGHTING RECIDIVISM WITH LITERACY

The greater benefits of literacy are central to United for Literacy's work. When faced with life's many challenges, being able to read is one less hurdle to overcome. Throughout our history, we have seen how improved literacy makes a positive impact on people involved with the criminal justice system (CJS). This is why we work with the Correctional Service of Canada as well as incarcerated individuals to develop and deliver courses for people in federal custody.

Then

In 1960, Frontier College partnered with the Government of Northwest Territories to support Dene and Inuit individuals in minimum security institutions. This was the organization's first prison literacy initiative, which led to further adult education programs in the North and across Canada.

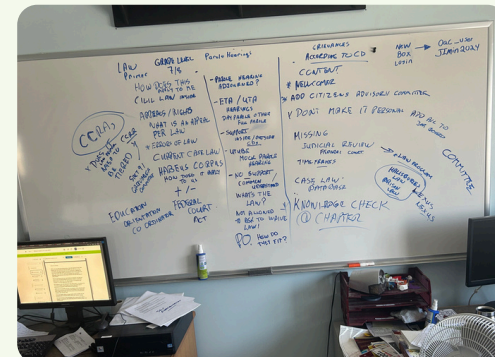
Now

We run literacy programs for incarcerated and previously incarcerated individuals across Canada, including Nunavut and Ontario. This year, an Ontario-based team developed and launched several computer-based courses that have proven successful, and there are more to come! These programs serve multiple purposes, including building leadership, supporting rehabilitation, and attempting to reduce recidivism. These activities build on people's strengths, help them envision life outside of the system, and lead to education and employment opportunities upon release.

Most programs focus on practical or foundational. Depending on the location, these may include:

- Reading, writing, and math support,
- Test preparation for the Canadian Adult Education Credential (CAEC) high school equivalency certificate (formerly the GED)
- Preparation for college entry, and
- Employment coaching.

Some programs also include mental health services, community resources, and other tools and contacts for successful reintegration into society. People involved in the justice system face many barriers to success; these programs and supports help people make decisions that benefit everyone.



SUPPORTING INDIGENOUS PEOPLES THROUGH COLLABORATION

United for Literacy has a long history of working with First Nations, Métis, and Inuit peoples.

Thanks to our amazing partners who have been willing to share and innovate with us, we have grown as people and an organization. We prioritize community voices and experiences, which makes our programming stronger and more relevant and impactful. The Summer Literacy Camp is one of the many programs that we have co-created in partnership with indigenous communities over the last 60 years.

Then

In 2005, The Honorable James K. Bartleman, former Lieutenant Governor of Ontario and a strong advocate for both Indigenous peoples and literacy, partnered with Frontier College to create the Summer Literacy Camps program. Under the guidance of Mr. Bartleman, a member of the Chippewas of Rama First Nation, the first camps took place in five Northern Ontario First Nations and soon expanded to communities across Canada. These camps give children a place to see their friends and have fun while reading and learning new things. Summer Literacy Camps also employ local youth as counsellors and engage Elders in an intergenerational setting to share knowledge and skills. This program is one of many that Frontier College has co-created in partnership with Indigenous communities over the past 60 years, reflecting a long-standing commitment to supporting Indigenous-led learning initiatives.

Now

Today, we commemorate the 25th year of Summer Literacy Camps, which continue to thrive as places of collaboration between United for Literacy and Indigenous communities across the country. In addition to these engaging and culturally responsive summer programs, we are now offering community-led, co-created programs, including Community Literacy Catalysts, math tutoring in Nunavik, and the distribution of free children's books to young people located in areas where books are hard to access.

Nearly
97%
of **campers** increased or
maintained their interest
in reading and learning

and

99%
of **parents** said camps
were valuable to their
communities.

Detailed results:

97% of campers felt their interest in reading and learning was maintained or raised.

99% of parents said camps were valuable

95% of counsellors said camp strengthened their employment skills

220 people employed, 66% hired from Indigenous host communities

AWARD RECIPIENTS 2024

UNITED FOR LITERACY 2024 FITZPATRICK AWARD

Honouring a company, organization, agency or family who demonstrate an exceptional commitment to advancing literacy.

Congratulations Edelman !

Edelman is a global communications firm that partners with businesses and organizations to evolve, promote, and protect their brands and reputations.



For over 5 years, **Greg Vanier**, Senior Vice President for Edelman Canada, has championed literacy at Edelman Canada. He and his team have also provided pro bono risk management services to United for Literacy.

We are thankful for their measured and thoughtful advice as well as their dedication to the cause of literacy.



UNITED FOR LITERACY COMPANION AWARD

Honouring an individual's dedication to literacy. This year, the Companion Award recognizes the two women who co-chair our annual fundraiser.

Congratulations Ozy Camacho and Pat Dunwoody!



**Ozy
Camacho**

Ozy Camacho, Director and Partner at Credo Consulting, is a passionate leader and an unstoppable force. Since 2021, she has connected us with new people and opportunities to make our annual Game Night a success.



**Pat
Dunwoody**

A fearless and strategic leader, Pat Dunwoody, Executive Director of the Canadian ETF Association, has been driving our Game Night success since 2017. Pat continuously seeks out new sponsors and advocates for literacy wherever she goes!

UNITED FOR LITERACY JOYCE MATTHEWS AWARD

From learner to volunteer and passionate advocate for United for Literacy, Russell Hutchison's dedication and hard work in the bookroom have touched countless lives and advanced the cause of literacy and learning. We are thankful for the boundless enthusiasm and care he brings to everything he does.

**Congratulations
Russell!**



Joyce Matthews 1926–2018

Our annual award for excellence in volunteering is named in honour of long-standing volunteer **Joyce Matthews**. The lasting impact of Joyce's unwavering dedication to literacy can be seen today in the enduring Reading Circles that get young people excited about reading. As a volunteer with Frontier College (now United for Literacy), Joyce initiated this program with the children she worked with in Toronto. Today, there are Reading Circles across Canada.

Although we said goodbye to Joyce in 2018, her memory remains in the children who continue to benefit from her belief in the power of reading and her generosity of spirit.



UNITED FOR LITERACY PERSEVERANCE AWARDS

Celebrating learners who go above and beyond to achieve their goals. These recipients have demonstrated motivation, persisted through challenges, and helped others on their literacy journeys. Their positivity shines through!



**Amber
Catagas**

Amber connected with United for Literacy to complete her GED. While juggling many commitments, including raising her daughter, she remained motivated, resilient, and willing to help others. With her kindness and unwavering work ethic, she is an inspiration to everyone she meets.

**Congratulations
Amber!**



**Mariia
Vysochanska**

Mariia immigrated to Canada from Ukraine alone a few years ago. She works with a tutor to improve her English and return to her career in the medical field. She shows determination, strength, a positive attitude, and an unwavering commitment to improving her skills while helping others along the way.

**Congratulations
Mariia!**



**Paul
Brunet**

Needing to start over after a brain injury changed his life, Paul worked with a tutor to regain his confidence and build new skills, including ways to use the computer to help him on his journey. He displays incredible devotion to his work and is a joy to be around.

**Congratulations
Paul!**

FINANCIAL LITERACY: MAKING SENSE OUT OF MONEY

Money matters, and United for Literacy has had a longstanding relationship with funders, partners, and supporters from the financial sector. Just as reading, writing, and math are intrinsic to lifelong learning, financial literacy is fundamental to taking the guesswork out of money and providing a foundation for economic resiliency.

Then

For more than 20 years, our annual fundraising event Scrabble for Literacy (which underwent a name change to **Game Night for Literacy** in 2024) in Toronto unites participants from banks, investment companies, and other corporations from the financial district. Longtime volunteer event co-chairs Ozy Camacho and Pat Dunwoody are industry professionals, too, and help raise funds for as well as awareness of our vital cause.



2023 Learner Achievement Award winner **Taylor Heidman** overcame challenges through the Beat the Street program and went on to start his electrician apprenticeship.



Tricia Sandy, 2025 Learner Achievement Award recipient, inspires others with her dedication to building literacy skills and her dream to give back through carpentry and volunteering.




[Watch Tricia's speech on United for Literacy's YouTube channel.](#)



Now

In today's complex and competitive world, understanding money is important for all ages. To address this need, United for Literacy, in partnership with Ontario's Ministry of Education, developed a range of free, downloadable resources for children from Grades 4 through 12. These resources include understanding how credit cards work, calculating interest, making a budget, and other valuable information.

This past year, President **Mélanie Valcin** spoke with Pierre Daillie, Managing Editor of AdvisorAnalyst.com about the intrinsic connection between literacy, personal financial well-being, and Canada's economic health. Their conversation is available on United for Literacy's [YouTube channel](#). 

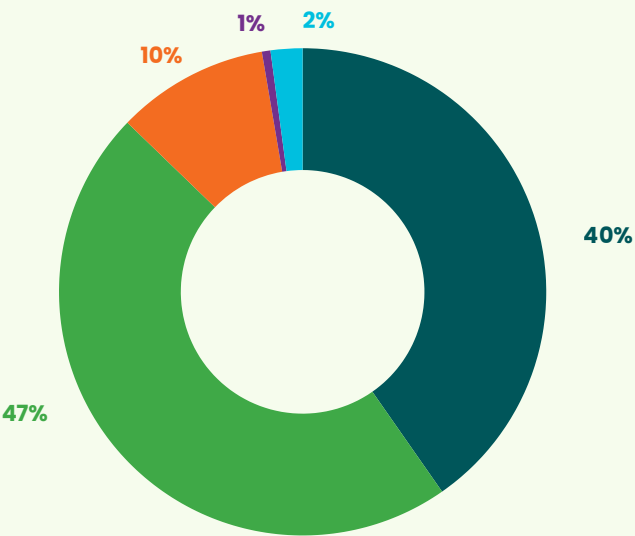


FINANCIALS

Summarized Statement of Operations

	2024	2025
● Governments	7,630,286	5,929,259
● Fundraising	4,393,011	5,094,390
● United for Literacy Foundation Grants	1,089,422	1,276,202
● United for Literacy Books	119,030	71,720
● Fee for Service & Other Income	356,471	266,334
Total Operating Revenue	13,588,220	12,637,905
Salaries and Benefits	9,968,747	9,229,951
Program Materials & Delivery Costs	1,017,799	961,678
Operational Costs	1,500,002	1,447,915
Travel	507,223	514,151
Fundraising and Communications	342,284	264,383
Cost of Sales	81,178	51,258
Amorization & Interest on Capital Leases	170,987	168,569
Total Operating Expenses	13,588,220	12,637,905
Excess of Revenue over Expenses	-	
Summarized Statement of Financial Posit	6,864,858	4,811,788
Assets		
Cash & Cash Equivalents	1,182,354	879,497
Accounts Receivable	358,823	277,644
Inventory & Prepaid Expenses	719,416	597,366
Capital Assets	9,125,451	6,566,295
Liabilities and Net Assets		
Accounts Payable & Accrued Liabilities	1,026,699	532,505
Deferred Contributions	7,284,077	5,238,916
Other Obligations	30,391	10,590
Net Assets	784,284	784,284
	9,125,451	6,566,295

Full audited financial statements and notes are available at www.unitedforliteracy.ca
Revenue sources 2024-2025



- Governments
- Fundraising
- United for Literacy Foundation Grants
- United for Literacy Books
- Fee for Service & Other Income

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