

HUMANITY HEALS

ANNUAL REPORT 2023-2024



Dr. Peter
Centre

Hazel's Welcome

01

"My life is rich.
My life is complete.
My life is spiritual.

I have been given these gifts from my
Creator and my greatest supporter, the DPC
—my family.

I have been on the Red Road for 10 years,
and I have so much gratitude for the Dr.
Peter Centre.

I've participated in every program offered.
I share meals with the community; I share
the love.

Laughter is the best medicine."



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**HUMANITY
AUTHENTICITY
TENACITY
INTEGRITY**



**The Dr. Peter Centre
transforms lives and
communities by bringing
humanity and
healthcare to those
sidelined by society.**

An Evolving Legacy



Peter Jepson-Young: Our Igniting Energy

Dr. Peter Jepson-Young's brave choice to document his AIDS journey through the 'Dr. Peter Diaries' established a legacy that outlived his tragically brief life. His groundbreaking television series humanized the AIDS epidemic for Canadians nationwide, at a time when stigma and fear prevailed. Dr. Peter's vision of compassionate, dignified care for those living with HIV/AIDS laid the foundation for what would become the Dr. Peter Centre.



Shirley Young: Our Moral Compass

Shirley, standing steadfastly by her son's side, channeled her grief into action after his passing in 1992. She became a major driving force behind the creation of the Dr. Peter Centre, ensuring that her son's vision of compassionate care would endure. For nearly three decades, Shirley volunteered tirelessly at the Centre, embodying its mission of providing dignity and support to those sidelined by society. Together, Shirley and Peter's legacy lives on through the Centre's continued work, the Affirmation Fund, and the many lives they touched.

Past

Present

Looking Forward: Our National Work

As we expand our models of care nationwide, we remain committed to our roots: offering human-centered care that recognizes the complexity and dignity of each individual we serve.



Powering the Future Leadership Gathering,
Feb 27-29 2024

This gathering brought together 30 leaders from complex care organizations across Canada to foster collaboration, strategic thinking, and sector resilience.

Perspectives from National Partners

"The federal micro-grant [dispensed to Dopamine by the DPC] was very helpful for us. It gave us a push and it gave us back our power to be who we are, to reach people, to be there with them. At Dopamine, we had a chance to get a vaccine clinic inside our program attached to our health authorities, but do it in our way." - Martin Pagé, Managing Director, Dopamine, Montreal

"What sets Dr. Peter Centre apart is their dedication to centering Indigenous voices and perspectives, and the voices of people who use drugs, in all aspects of their work. From amplifying the stories of Indigenous Peoples, to actively challenging and dismantling colonial constructs, they exemplify a model of engagement that is not only culturally responsive but inherently respectful and unique to their organization." - Ashley Smoke, Ontario Network for People who Use Drugs

Future

Hope Through *proven* Solutions ⁰⁷



Dear friends,

As we stand at the frontlines of complex healthcare, the urgency of our work has never been clearer. Our current systems are fragmented and often inaccessible to those we serve, particularly the 2% of our population facing complex health and social challenges. **Yet, we see this not as a cause for despair, but as a call to action.**

At the Dr. Peter Centre, we're pioneering a new approach; one that breaks down silos and fosters collaboration across the sector. We're creating a common language to better support individuals throughout their care journey, with our whole-person model of care at the heart of our strategy.

Our goal is twofold: to streamline resources, channeling more into a person-centered care model where each individual is valued and respected, and to reduce the number of people sidelined from healthcare by expanding integrated care that addresses root causes, breaks down barriers, and transforms lives.

We're committed to creating a system where all are seen as whole people deserving of compassionate, comprehensive care. This is not just an aspiration—it's a necessity. The stark reality is that existing siloed approaches are falling short, and the status quo is not working.

Our unique position, with boots on the ground and a proven model of care, makes us a nationally-trusted partner in driving meaningful change. But we can't do this alone. We call upon all our partners, supporters, and community members to join us in this crucial endeavor.

Together, we can break down barriers and create a model of progressive healthcare that truly serves those who need it most.



Scott
Elliott

CEO



Tassan
Sung

BOARD CHAIR

Who are the 2% we
stand for?



Imagine your name is Jo.

It's 7 o'clock in the morning, and you've woken up in the same clothes you went to sleep in. You're cold. You're shivering, and you're wet.

You are hungry but have nothing to eat. The closest food bank is on the other side of town, and it doesn't open for another three hours.

You need your meds, but the place that is holding them for you is 13 long blocks away. **Just around the corner, however, the neighbourhood dealer is always open for business.**

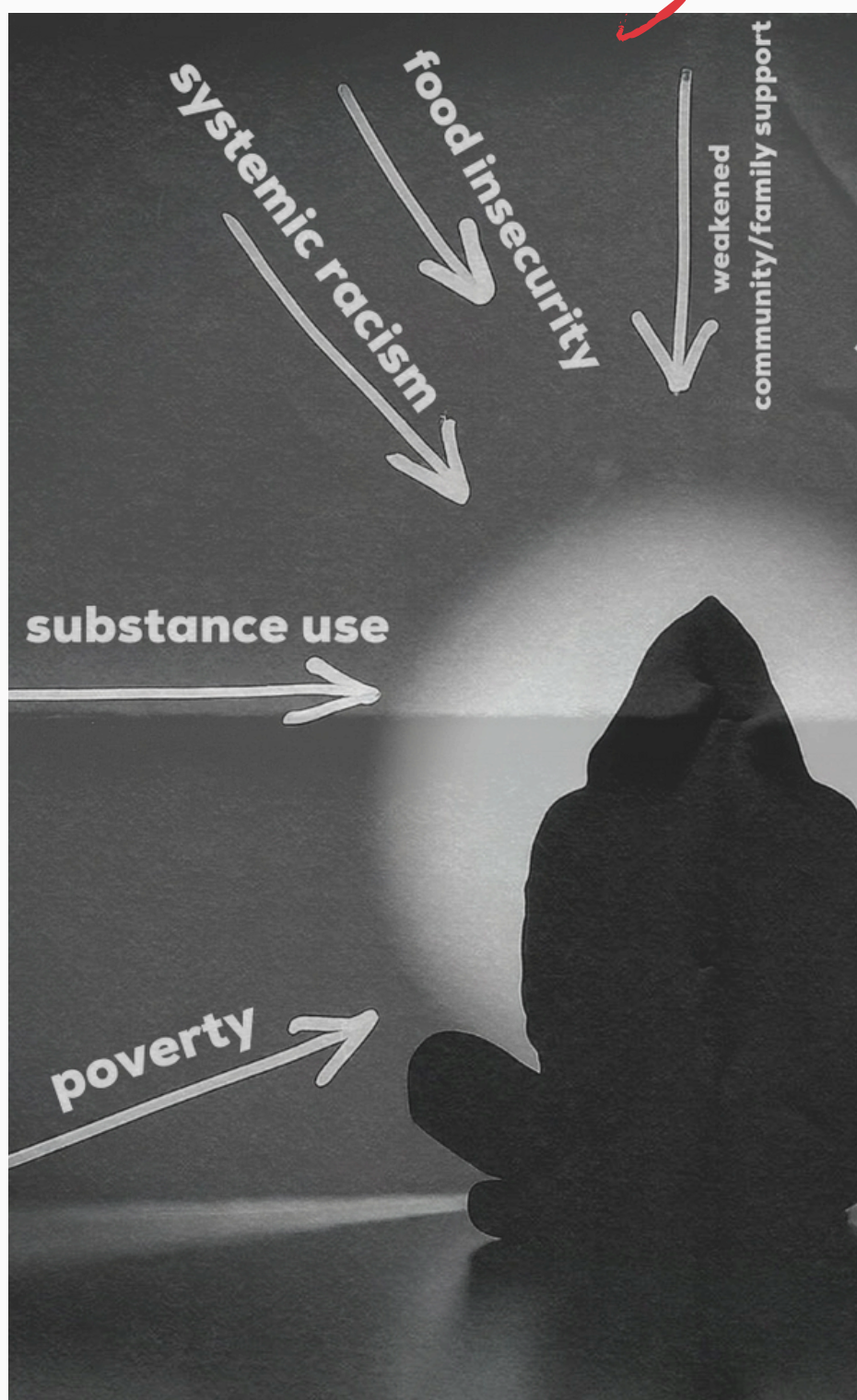
The clinic you count on for therapy is overbooked, so your chronic pain goes untreated.

You have no phone or address, so there is no way for friends, family, or job prospects to reach you, or for you to reach out to.

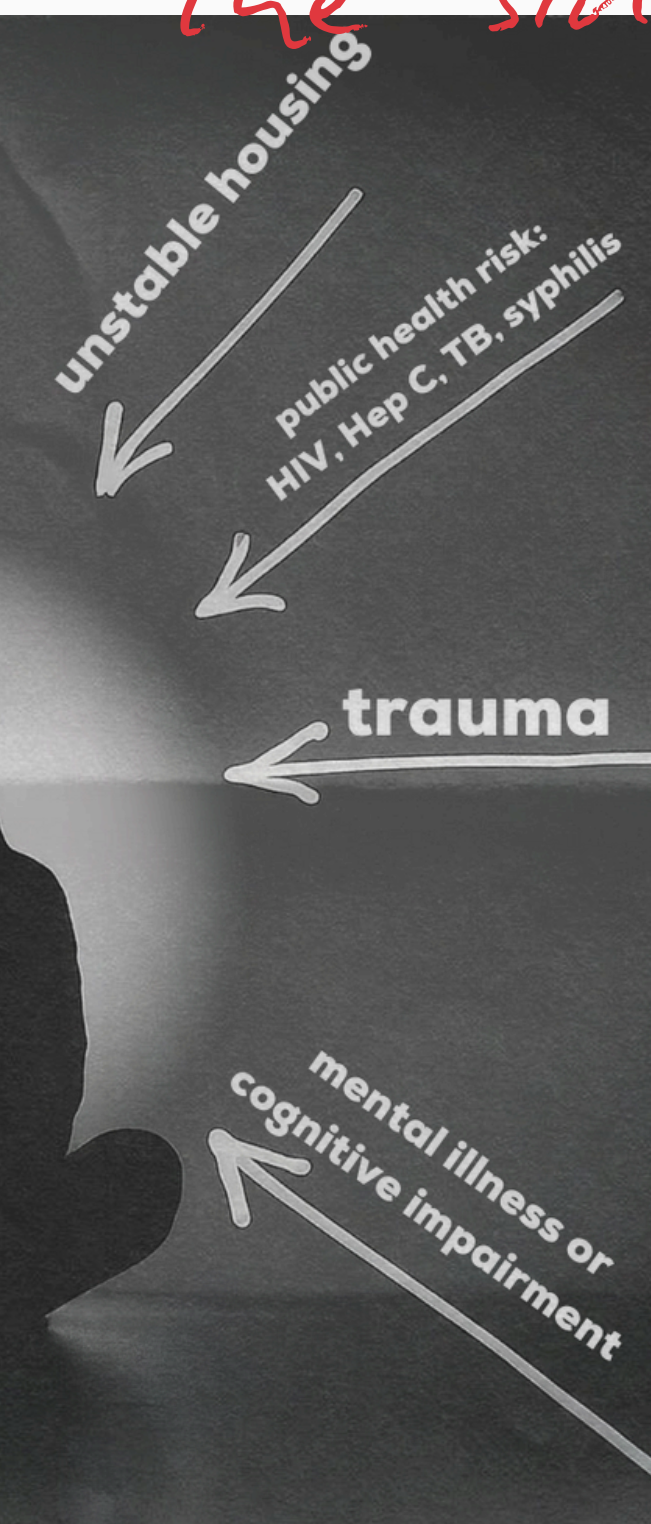
Without transportation, **your world is limited to the places you can walk to.**

That night, like every night, you will need a place to sleep. If you are willing to line up on the street for several hours, you might be lucky enough to find a bed in a crowded shelter, but **only if you are willing to leave your pet or partner behind.**

Wherever you lay your head, sleep will not come easy.



You are part of the sidelined 2%



that represents approximately 750,000 Canadians facing complex, overlapping challenges that have sidelined them from society. These individuals, embodied by the archetype 'Jo,' navigate a harsh reality of homelessness, substance use, mental health issues, and often, chronic illnesses.

'Jo' could be a 19-year-old picked up for drug possession, a 30-year-old sleeping on a park bench, an Indigenous woman committed to involuntary care or a refugee recently diagnosed with HIV. They might frequent emergency rooms, miss health appointments, and have a history of overdose. Banned from shelters due to behavioral challenges, 'Jo' may engage in public drug use and experience family estrangement.

These individuals are not hard to reach, but due to their complex needs, they are hard to treat. They often fall through the cracks of our fragmented care system. This 2% is not just a percentage of our population; they are people with stories and unmet needs that require compassionate, integrated support.

By focusing on the 2%, we address a moral imperative and work towards relieving pressure on our overburdened services. Our goal is to see the whole person, offering human-centered care that recognizes their complexity and dignity. Through this approach, we aim to create lasting change for all Canadians.

Our Model of Care

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Inspired Leadership

Providing impactful, collaborative leadership that supports our models of care and promotes meaningful change.



Frontline Solutions

Generate, validate, and amplify solutions for complex care across Canada.

Campus of Care

A hub of innovation and excellence in Vancouver.

Our Möbius

As you follow the edge of a Möbius strip, an infinite loop appears where the known and unknown meet. Our Möbius logo both reflects and guides how the Dr. Peter Centre operates, with every aspect of our organization informing the next, no action taken in isolation. Like the Möbius, our model may appear complex but, in practice, is simple—an unbroken continuum of care.

Dale's Story

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"My journey has been a rollercoaster of highs and lows, starting with the excitement of opening my own restaurant in downtown Vancouver, only to have everything taken away unexpectedly. By entrusting my landlord and realtor with my complete faith, I was met with fraudulent behavior that led to the loss of my parents' inheritance, my life savings, and my newly renovated home. Despite enduring challenges, I remained steadfast in my integrity and determination, refusing to succumb to bankruptcy. I persevered through adversity but found myself living in a tent in city parks for eight months.

It was during this difficult time that I was introduced to the Dr. Peter Centre by my case manager from the community, and I was immediately blown away by the support and care I received. The therapists have helped me rediscover my passion for music and now art, and the community at the Centre has provided me with a sense of belonging and purpose. I am honoured to have had my work displayed in the Dr. Peter Centre community art show and to have connected with Dr. Peter's family, who have been touched by my story. The staff and programs at the Centre have played a crucial role in my healing and transformation, and I am forever grateful for their guidance and support."

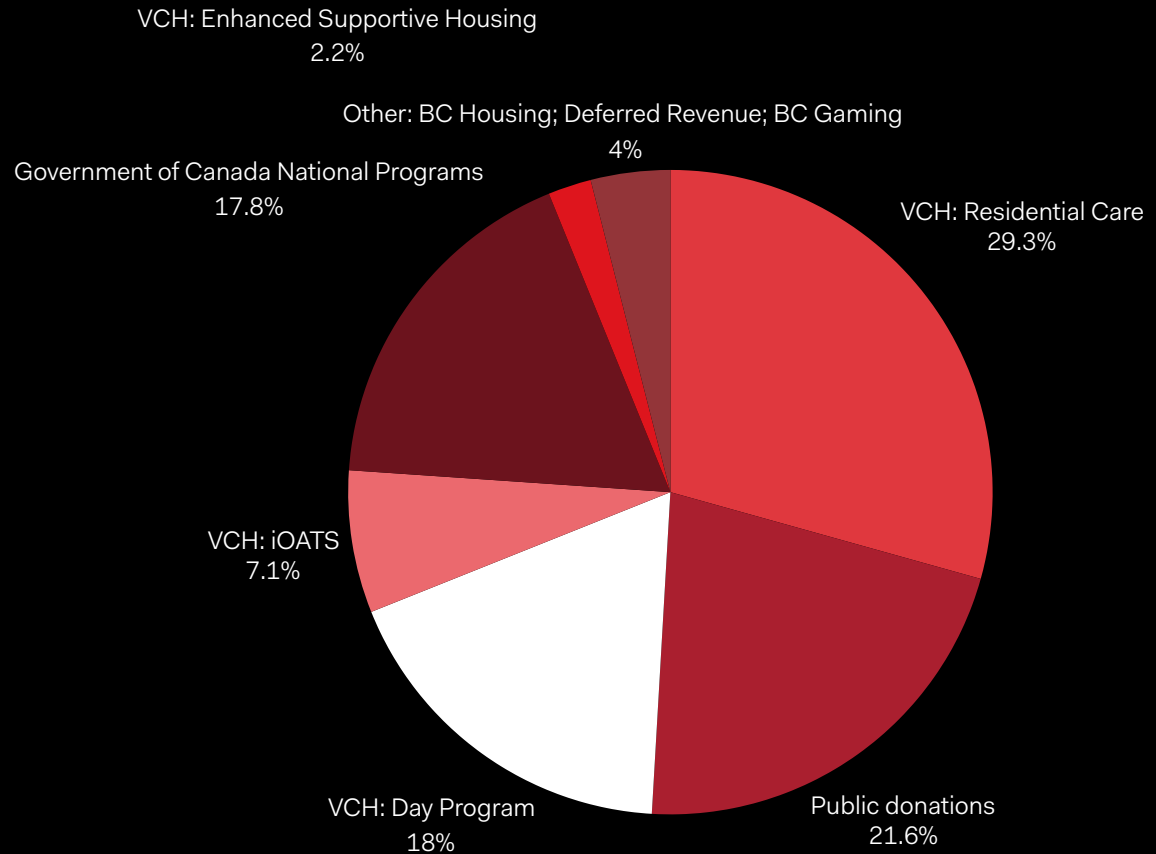
Financials

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Apr 1 2023 - March 31 2024

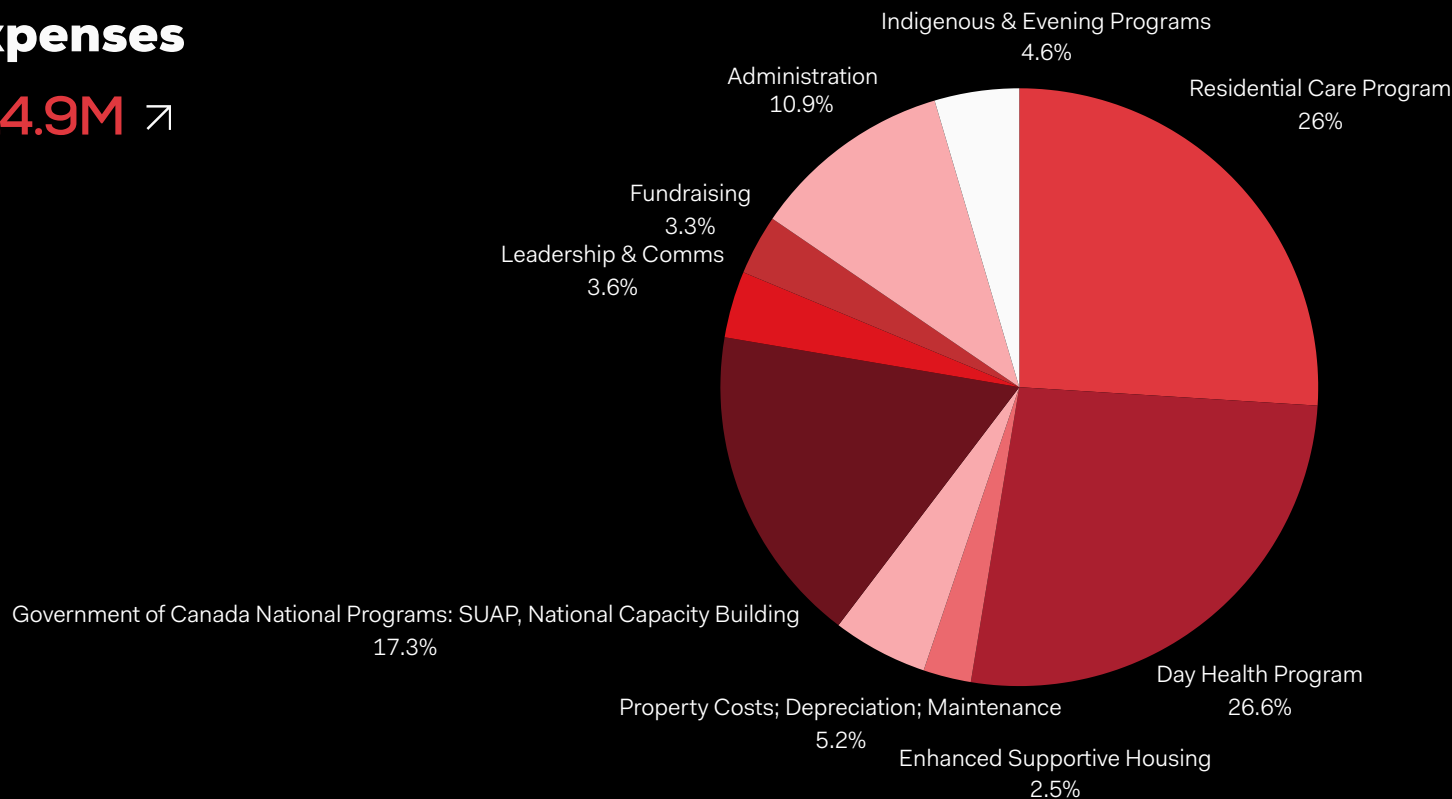
Revenue

\$14.5M ↗



Expenses

\$14.9M ↗



Our Signature Events: 2023



Over \$1.1 million raised.

From daring drag showcases, Michelin-starred chefs, and a private dinner nestled in the Southlands, our events exceeded expectations and brought our community of caring together around a common cause—the continued growth and success of our vital Day Health programming.

Raised:

\$85K



Presented by TD: **Pride Cocktail Kickoff**
Co-Chairs: Sid Koshul, Kevin Mazzone,
Ryan McKinley and Gary Serra

\$800K



Presented by Nicola Wealth: **Life Commitment**
Co-Chairs: Michelle Addison and Genieve Burley

\$250K



Presented by RBC: **Passions**
Co-Chairs: Sophia Cheng and Amelie Thuy Nguyen

Our Vision for National Change

SEVEN-YEAR SNAPSHOT

Since 2017, the Dr. Peter Centre has been at the forefront of addressing Canada's most complex health and social challenges. Our impact has extended far beyond our local roots:

- Implemented 15 national PHAC and SUAP contracts, totaling \$20 million
- Established a harm reduction network of 440 organizations nationwide
- Conducted 342 Community of Practice engagements
- Facilitated 72 "Incubators" on critical topics including Supervised Consumption Sites and safe supply

AN URGENT NEED FOR ACTION

The crisis is worsening:

- Overdoses, encampments, and visible homelessness are on the rise
- Complex health issues overwhelm emergency services
- Public safety concerns are escalating
- Political rhetoric overshadows effective solutions

OUR SOLUTION: COMPREHENSIVE NATIONAL INITIATIVES

1. Humanity Heals

A transformative five-year initiative focusing on Canada's most vulnerable 2%.

Key Strategies:

- Drive Human-Centered Care Models
- Unify Frontline Organizations: Break down silos, develop common language and leadership
- Co-Create Funding Efficiencies: Establish sustainable funding structures with corporate and philanthropic engagement

2. National Support System for Frontline Organizations

A \$5.8 million SUAP-funded project to develop a national support system for frontline organizations aiding people who use drugs. This project complements Humanity Heals by strengthening our network of organizations across Canada to deliver effective, compassionate care.

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National Projects

**342**

Community of Practice Engagements

**72**

Incubators and Working Groups



Campus of Care

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Our **Campus of Care** isn't just a place; it's a promise. It's a commitment to the 2% of our population sidelined by society that they can continue to access care that values them as members of society. Through our holistic, trauma-informed care, we prove that turning chaos into community isn't just possible—it's essential.

This year:

- **Cultural and Wellness Initiatives**

- Totem carved at the Centre and raised in the front lobby
- “Two-Eyed Seeing” implemented in Residence and Day Health; a concept of understanding the world through both Indigenous and Western perspectives
- Welcomed over 80 asylum seekers from Latin America
- Launched a podcast for transgender care
- Reinstated volunteer therapies: massage therapy, Reiki, and haircuts

- **Staff Development**

- Improved crisis intervention, conflict resolution, and safety intervention training
- Enhanced database integration (reviewed and improved the intake process and participant list, implemented Pharmanet and CareConnect for nursing team)

- **Community Engagement and Partnerships**

- Enhanced relationships with Ministry of Social Services and Community Policing
- Held our first external art exposition with over 15 participants, 100+ pieces, and successful sales

20%

increase in 1:1 music therapy



87,000

meals served



Frontline Solutions



Frontline Solutions leverages the Centre's extensive experience and innovative approaches to align with other frontline organizations across the country working with the 2%.

This year:

- **Knowledge Dissemination**
 - Distributed and expanded our Knowledge Bundles, incorporating community feedback from Indigenous leaders and those with lived and living experience
- **Community Engagement and Collaboration**
 - Conducted multiple Community of Practice (CoP) calls with a total of 215 participants
 - Developed partnerships with key new frontline partners
 - Hosted 22 experiential tours for international organizations
- **Capacity Building**
 - Completed year-long, capacity-building training for healthcare professionals and community organizations
- **Research and Publication**
 - Published academic research about our iOAT program in the Addiction Science & Clinical Practice journal
 - Launched the Women and Gender Expansive Persons (WGEP) report

93%



more frontline partnerships formed in 2023 than previous year

91%



of training participants reported high satisfaction

Inspired Leadership



We are focused on providing impactful, collaborative leadership that supports our models of care and promotes meaningful change.

This year:

- **Strategic Planning and Development**
 - Developed a five-year plan for supporting our national initiatives
 - Created and implemented a new strategic framework
- **National Recognition**
 - Recognized as a trusted national partner in Dr. Teresa Tam's 2024 report
 - Addressed the Standing Senate Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs regarding Bill C-69's amendments
 - Shared 39 presentations at 14 international conferences
- **Fundraising**
 - Raised over \$1.4 million for future national work expansion via the Affirmation Fund
- **Leadership and Organizational Structure**
 - Appointed Jason Altenberg as COO
 - Appointed Patrick McDougall, Kristie Clark, and Rosalind Baltzer Turje to key strategic positions
 - CEO Scott Elliott appointed to Board of Directors of the Canadian Centre on Substance Use and Addiction (CCSA)
 - Manager of Frontline Solutions, Nadine Favics, appointed to board of the Ontario HIV Treatment Network
 - Became certified as a BC Living Wage Employer

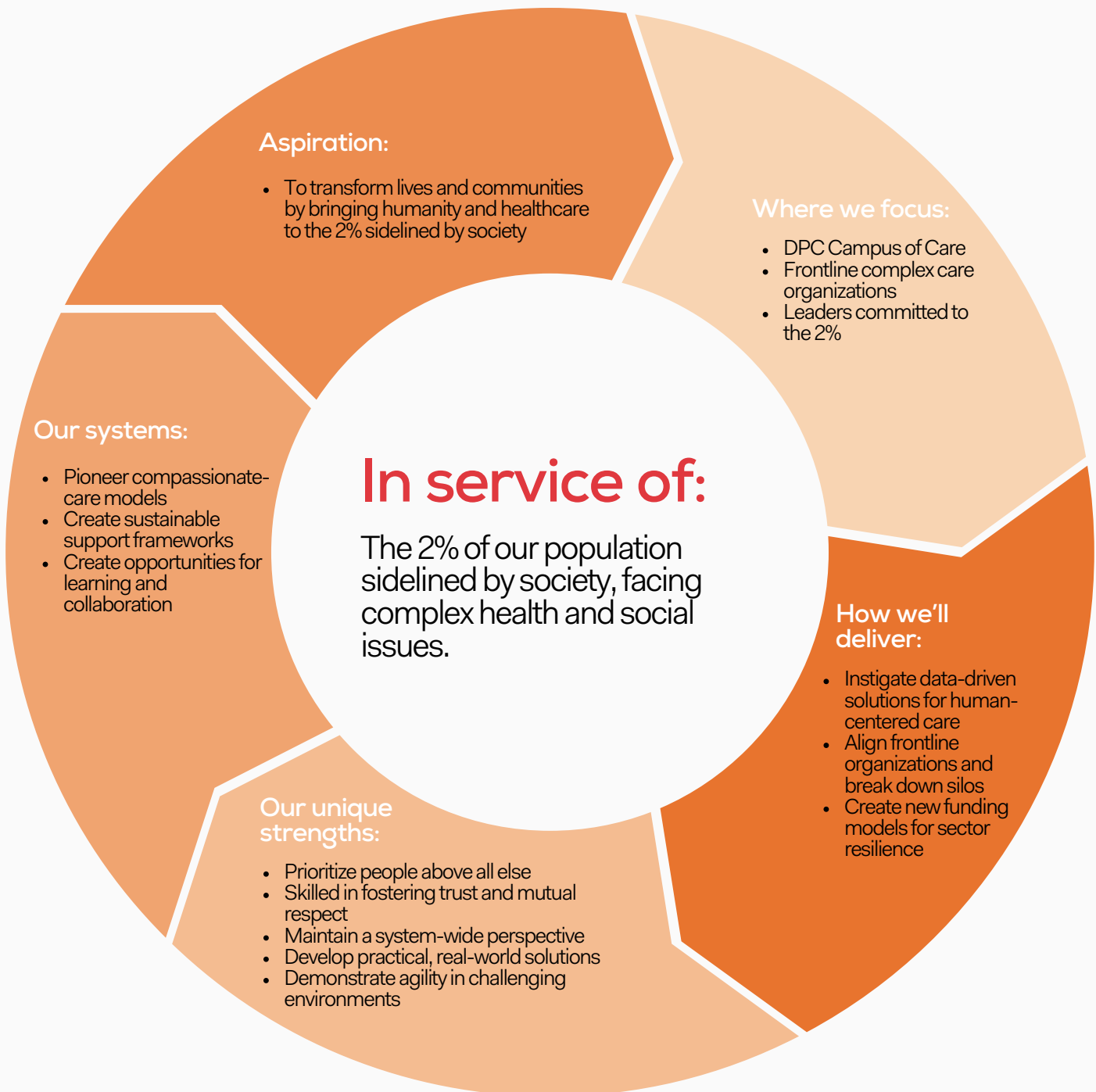
14

international conferences presented at

4

new strategic positions created





Board of Directors

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& Donor Relations Specialist,
Waterstreet Consulting

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Nicola Wealth

James Bond

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Clinical Assistant Professor, **UBC**

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Strategy & CMO,
Destination Canada

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President,
Essential Real Estate

Dr. Diane McIntosh

Psychiatrist & Chief Neuroscience
Officer, **TELUS Health**
Clinical Assistant Professor, **UBC**

Lee Man

Group Chief Financial Officer,
Destination Auto Group

Muneesh Sharma

Manager of Community and
Business Initiatives,
City of Delta

Glen Chalcraft

Senior Director, Marketing
Bosa Properties



Thank You

FY 2023 Donors

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"The Dr Peter Centre has proven that its model of compassionate care in a stigma-free environment improves the lives of the most vulnerable in our society." - The Evans Family: Board Members, Volunteers and Donors

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Yuki Aida
Al Roadburg Foundation
Vishal Anand
Brock Andrew
Rani Ang
Mark Angus
Ali Ansari
Jo Ansell-Bennett
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Casey Archibald
Michelle Armstrong
Linda Ashton
Atlas Study Tours
Meagan Baird
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Mark Baker
Priya Baker
Neil Banich
Fco. Javier Barajas
Robin Bardon
Cameron Barker-Fyfe
Michael Barker-Fyfe
J Kevin Barlow
Lori Bartlett
Bryan Bass
Ryan Bazeley
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Enforcement Branch
BC Housing
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Gilles Beaudin
Wendy Bernier
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Maria Kritikos
Alfred Kruger
Dr. Jason Kur
Prabhavathi Kutty
Stanley Kwok



"Benefits have improved my dental health, allowing teeth straightening with minimal out-of-pocket costs." - Jesus, Administration Officer



"Seeing the totem in the lobby reminds me that I am a proud Indigenous woman." - Grace, Participant



"Making a living wage affects my life at work in a way that I can focus better on my job without worrying about making ends meet." - Han, Administrative Assistant

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Andrew Laukkanen
Helen Law
Kellie Lawson
Lawson Lundell LLP
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Oliver Zihlmann
Jonie Zimmerman
Garry Zlotnik
Chris Zuberec

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We gratefully acknowledge the financial support of the:

- Health Canada: Substance Use and Addictions Program
- Province of British Columbia
- Public Health Agency of Canada
- Vancouver Coastal Health

Affirmation Fund: Founding Donors

The Affirmation Fund is a fundraising campaign dedicated to empowering and uplifting the Dr. Peter Centre's national efforts.

- Shirley Young
- David Paperny and Audrey Mehler
- Susan Evans
- Evans Family
- Isherwood Family
- Dr. Deborah and Brad Money
- Anonymous





IN LOVING MEMORY

Shirley Young (1933-2024)

cheshá7min txwtá7 ta úxwumixw
Mother of our Community



Dr. Peter
Centre

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drpeter.org