



missionpossible

EMPOWERMENT THROUGH OPPORTUNITY

2021-2022
Annual Report



Building Momentum

May 1, 2021 - April 30, 2022



Working Works

Building Momentum, Together

We would like to thank you for supporting Mission Possible this past year. Whether you volunteered your time, donated your resources, contracted with our social enterprises or hired our program graduates, please know:

Because of your investment, lives have been changed.

Thank You!

This past year, we have seen 43% more people begin work in our social enterprises - and with great tenacity, propelling their lives forward. At Mission Possible, this has truly been a year of building momentum.

Much of the world has also shifted from shutdown to worker shortage. Nowadays, you can't go far without seeing "Help Wanted" or "We're Hiring" signs. Employers can't find employees and it seems like there are none.

But this simply isn't true.

The fact is, while much of the province continues to wade through a labor shortage, we here at Mission Possible have an ongoing pool of prospective employees graduating from our Employment Readiness Program.

Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, our organization saw an average of 450 applicants per year for our Employment Readiness Program. This past year, however, that number swelled to more than 600!

This clearly demonstrates a few things:





Working Works

Doing things differently doesn't need to be difficult, and with major workforce shortages currently facing Canadian employers, now is the perfect time to innovate employment practices to find and keep available talent.

Inclusive hiring - employing people with diverse abilities - has value to both organizations and individuals who are given a meaningful opportunity.

Moving ahead, and with your support, we here at Mission Possible are excited to advance our goal of welcoming another 112 people into our Employment Readiness Program this year knowing that lives are transformed by meaningful work.

We are thankful for the volunteers, donors, customers, and employers who have partnered with us this past year, and we are eagerly looking ahead to what the future holds.

Together, we can continue building momentum.

Gratefully,



Matthew Smedley
Mission Possible
Executive Director & CEO

2021-2022 Mission Possible Board of Directors

Kris Alexander, Chair

Maksim Mihic, Director

Pamela Ryan, Vice Chair

Gordon McCann, Director

Jonathan Gibson, Treasurer

Nicole Gilewicz, Director

James Struthers, Secretary

Tristan Kingcott, Director



Your Support, Our Impact

As the conversation surrounding Canada's labor shortage continues, and the need to support those within our community who have been excluded from the economic benefits of meaningful work increases, Mission Possible continues to provide real opportunities that result in long-term change.

Our comprehensive approach creates systemic solutions for some of the most challenging issues facing residents of Vancouver's Downtown Eastside (DTES). Some of our recent accomplishments include:



Moving 93 people into Transitional Employment via our Co-Ed and Women's Track Employment Readiness Program



Successfully transitioning 18 people to permanent full-time or part-time work outside of Mission Possible



Increasing the number of employed MP Associates from 103 in 2021 to 137 in 2022, resulting in 37,674 training hours worked by MP's associates



Providing 19,600 meals to DTES residents through our Saturday morning Power Breakfast and food security programming

“I’m an asset. I didn’t think for a long time that I was. I think that’s the most rewarding thing I got from Mission Possible. They taught me how to understand that I am worthy.”
- Chris, Graduated MP Associate

“Mission Possible lifts their workers. When you value someone like that, they will be raised up to feel that they are human. Feeling worthy is a learned behaviour”
- Sylvia, Graduated MP Associate

“MP is great. Before I came to Mission Possible, I felt defeated by the job market. I thought I would always have to do degrading jobs. Mission Possible opened my eyes to different opportunities out there where I feel respected and that are a better fit for me.

I really enjoy my new job. If I hadn’t gone through Mission Possible, I doubt that I would’ve made the connections that I needed to find my new job, where now I have goals and room to grow. Mission Possible was definitely the starting point for me.”
- James, Graduated MP Associate



Your Support, Our Impact

2021-2022 Financial Overview



MP-Employed Associates

May 1, 2018 to April 30, 2019:



97 Associates Started Employment

May 1, 2019 to April 30, 2020:



132 Associates Started Employment

May 1, 2020 to April 30, 2021:



103 Associates Started Employment

May 1, 2021 to April 30, 2022:



137 Associates Started Employment

Our Impact This Year



Jacqueline's Story

A Local and A Leader: Jacqueline's Story

Having lived in Vancouver since she was 11 years old, Jacqueline says she has always loved this city she calls home; however, she also said that doesn't necessarily mean she always felt like a contributing member of the community, much less as a leader within it.

After many years of living in New West with her family, Jacqueline found herself in a new, unfamiliar situation - facing housing insecurity and, eventually, homelessness - when her kids moved out on their own and their father relocated to Quebec. This shift left Jacqueline struggling, not only looking for work but also wanting to find community and belonging again. This led her to seek out the assistance of a women's shelter in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside.



Although the shelter found her a place to stay, Jacqueline shared it was not a good experience for her and she began to struggle with her mental health, ending up in the hospital for 3 months before finding stable housing in Downtown Vancouver, her home for the last 4 years.

Once securely housed, Jacqueline sought stable work, eventually securing a cleaning job at BC Children's Hospital; however, she struggled with her role in this setting due to the pressure she felt to clean the various rooms and spaces, on top of experiencing the struggles of those around her every day. Jacqueline shared that as useful as she felt in her role, it was not good for her mental health and she decided to seek employment elsewhere.

As she began looking for new work, she saw Mission Possible (MP) crews cleaning the streets near her home. Wanting to continue in her role as a cleaner, but seeking to work specifically in keeping Vancouver's streets clean, she asked her doctor about how to join these street-cleaning teams. Her doctor was able to get her connected with Mission Possible's Employment Readiness Program, and she started working with us shortly thereafter. Jacqueline shared:

***“I went from homeless on the street,
to now living in a very nice, clean
apartment, with a cute little job that
I loved.”
- Jacqueline, MP Associate***



In the six months since starting Mission Possible’s Employment Readiness Program, Jacqueline had already built up quite a bit of momentum, successfully completing her security training and bringing her one step closer to obtaining her BC Security License. Additionally, she is exploring obtaining her Street Degree in Overdose Prevention – a first-of-its-kind peer training certificate from Vancouver Coastal Health and PHS Community Services Society.

Jacqueline says she credits Mission Possible with giving her the perspective to see new opportunities - not only as a working member of society but as a leader within her community.

This sense of community, developed during her time at Mission Possible, is what led her to develop her existing skills and learn new skills she never knew she had - like public speaking.

Although nervous at first to stand in front of a packed room, Jacqueline has since become a go-to representative for Mission Possible at community events and within the media, having been featured on multiple newscasts, including CBC Radio One and Global News.

An outgoing spirit, Jacqueline has loved getting to meet new people and serve as an ambassador for Mission Possible. In fact, her favorite part of her job now is getting to create strong bonds with the people she works with. Meeting with coworkers outside of MP for dinner and fun activities has become a new normal in her life, which has given her a fresh perspective on what it means to create everlasting friendships and be part of a community.

“At this job, I’m meeting all kinds of people and I’m loving it!”
- Jacqueline, MP Associate

And to you, Jacqueline, we must say back: folks are loving meeting you, too! Thank you for all you have done, and continue to do, as a leader within our community and ambassador for Mission Possible!

We cannot wait to see what the future has in store for you.

Onwards and upwards!





Our Year in Review

Employment Readiness Program

Our Employment Readiness Program (ERP) empowered 93 individuals this year, an increase of 43% over last year! Our ERP accomplishments this past year include:

- Implementing new training opportunities focused on interview skills, resume writing workshops, digital literacy support, and respectful workplace conduct
- Hiring a Housing Support Coordinator to support Associates with their housing needs
- Expanding and strengthening partnerships with supportive employers in the community

Overall, 91.3% of Associates said they felt more employable after their time in the ERP, and 95.7% of Associates felt their sense of self-worth changed positively during their time in the ERP. These numbers tell us we are on the right track in empowering participants to make positive change in their lives.

With your support, we look forward to continuing to build momentum!

Women's Track

Mission Possible's Women's Track ERP continued to grow last year, supporting 36 women and gender diverse program participants. The ability to access this safe, supportive space has increased awareness of this unique offering, resulting in a 49% increase in program participation over last year.

This program focuses on increasing gender representation and addressing unique barriers women & gender-diverse individuals experience while engaging employment in male-dominated spaces.

MP Maintenance

Building Momentum accurately describes the past year for our social enterprises, as our crews continued to experience increased service demand.

MP Maintenance, a full-service exterior property cleaning company that provides high-caliber services while employing individuals with barriers to employment, completing 19,108 site visits in Vancouver/the Lower Mainland!

MP Maintenance services include: Landscape Maintenance, Pressure Washing, Window Washing, Graffiti Removal, Awning Cleaning, Painting, Site & Grounds Clean up, and Customized Packages.



Our Year in Review

MP Neighbours

Throughout the last year, our MP Neighbours team continued to serve as a resource to, and create community-based solutions for, the residents and local businesses of Vancouver's Downtown Eastside.

In addition to their regular security, outreach and needle pick-up services, they continued to hand out Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and the latest information about the COVID-19 vaccines, helping to ensure a targeted and coordinated approach to vaccine equity within the Downtown Eastside (DTES) community. This effort resulted in high vaccine uptake in the DTES neighbourhood - a marginalized community that oftentimes faces discrimination within the health-care system.

Our MP Neighbours team also provided a community-based solution to the stoppage of mail delivery for a two-block stretch of Vancouver's DTES. When Canada Post halted delivery to East Hasting Street between Carrall and Main streets for nearly five weeks in March and April 2022, our MP Neighbours team stepped up as 'Community Navigators', pairing up with Canada Post postal workers and accompanying them on their route to ensure they could easily access buildings and therefore resume mail delivery to the residents of Vancouver's DTES.

Power Breakfast & Food Security

Mission Possible's Power Breakfast Program has been supporting the Downtown Eastside (DTES) community for more than 20 years, providing more than 250 hot, nutritious meals to residents experiencing homelessness and poverty every Saturday morning.

This past year, through our Power Breakfast program and additional food security programming, our meal output increased 21%, from 16,298 meals provided in 2020/2021 to 19,677 meals provided in 2021/2022.

Thanks to the generosity of our partners, as well as volunteers, we were able to not only provide a hot, nutritious meal every Saturday morning but were also able to provide daily lunches to our associates before and after their shifts.

We would like to give special thanks to Agnes Li, BA Blacktop Ltd., Boffo Properties, Christian Leaders Fund, Food Stash Foundation, Fujian Evangelical Church, Greater Vancouver Food Bank, MEP Business Counsel, Moscrop Secondary School, Neptune Terminals, 19Twenty Church, Orthologie Orthodontics, Trinity Baptist Church, and the UBC Red Cross Club for providing volunteers and food donation support.





Thank You!

You Make Our Mission Possible!

On behalf of the Mission Possible Board of Directors, I want to thank you for your incredible support of Mission Possible. As we continue to navigate new opportunities and ongoing challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic, our loyal supporters are vital to our continued future success.

Mission Possible continues to show the resilience, compassion and community that we are so proud of.

As we continue to understand what our new world looks like we want to acknowledge our individual donors, institutional partners, Impact Sponsors, Momentum Partner monthly donors, volunteers and all supporters who chose to invest in Mission Possible.

Thank you for believing in Mission possible and making such a difference in our community.



Kris Alexander
Mission Possible
Board of Directors, Chair

Thank you 2021 missionpossible Gala Partners!

\$10,000 Gold Partners







\$5,000 Silver Partners












\$3,000 Bronze Partners












In-Kind Media Partners






Become an MP Customer
www.mpmaintenance.ca



Hire an MP Graduate
hire@mission-possible.ca



Fund the Opportunities
www.mission-possible.ca



Thank You!

Thank You 2021-2022 Institution Partners!

- Agriculture & Agri-Food Canada (AAFC)
- ALF Software, Inc.
- Arlin Foundation
- Allen / McMillan Litigation Counsel
- Bancorp Financial Services Inc.
- BMG Industries Inc.
- Bridge Studios
- Cambridge Plumbing Systems Ltd.
- Canada Helps
- Canadian National Railway
- Centra Cares Foundation
- City of Vancouver
- Coffey Foundation
- Colley West Shipping Ltd.
- Community Impact Real Estate Society
- Costco Wholesale Canada Ltd.
- Deloitte Canada
- Delta Hotels by Marriott Vancouver Downtown Suites
- Deux Mille Foundation
- Dr. Ann Worth Charitable Foundation
- EasyPark
- Ecclesiastical Insurance
- Eli Lilly Canada Inc.
- Essential Impact
- Fasken Martineau Dumoulin LLP
- FortisBC
- GMR Foundation
- Gordon B. Shrum via Aqueduct Foundation
- Greater Vancouver Food Bank
- Harken Towing Co. Ltd.
- Impact Recruitment Inc.
- Industrial Alliance iA Financial Group
- Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) Canada
- J.F.C. Investments Ltd.
- Jaana Kujala
- KSBK Charitable Foundation
- Lohn Foundation
- Macushlaw
- Midland Industrial Covers
- Midland Liquidators Ltd.
- Mott Electric
- Mount Pleasant War Memorial Community Cooperative Association
- Mel & Geri Davis Charitable Trust
- Neptune Bulk Terminals (Canada), Ltd.
- Nicola Wealth Private Giving Foundation
- North-West Ceramic Foundation
- Owen Bird Law Corporation
- Pacific Spirit Investment Management Inc.
- PBX Engineering
- Pico of Canada Ltd.
- Province of British Columbia
- Purdy's Chocolatier
- Raider Hansen
- Reed Charitable Foundation, Inc.
- Rise Up Business Coaching
- RLG International Inc.
- Rob Radloff via the WCPD Foundation
- Scotiabank
- Seacliff Foundation
- Sunrise Market
- SupportingLines Institute
- Susgrainable Health Foods Inc.
- Thai United Food Trading Ltd.
- The 1988 Foundation
- The Barnes Family Foundation
- The Canadian Community Economic Development Network
- The Delphi Group
- The Giustra Foundation
- The Spirit Foundation
- The Sjogren Family Fund
- Social Planning and Research Council (SPARC) B.C.
- TMX Group
- Trail Appliances
- United Association of Journeymen & Apprentices of the Plumbing & Pipefitting Industry, Local 170
- Vancity Community Foundation
- Vancouver Fraser Port Authority
- Waldman Diamond Canada
- West Coast Christian Fellowship Church
- Windmill Consulting Inc.
- Windward Foundation
- WorkBC
- Youth and Philanthropy Initiative (YPI) Canada
- YVR Community Foundation

How to Help

Your Generosity Changes Lives



\$25

1 High Visibility Safety Vest for
1 MP Associate



\$250

3-Day Employment Readiness
Workshop Expenses



\$3,000

Supports 1 MP Associate's
Journey for 6 Months



\$85

1 MP Maintenance Basic Uniform
Set for 1 New MP Associate



\$500

Monthly support for 1 MP
Associate



\$6,000

Become an Impact Sponsor
for 1 year



\$120

Full MP Maintenance Rain
Gear for 1 MP Associate



\$800

Saturday Power Breakfast Full-
Service Expenses



\$10,000

Sponsors 1 MP Maintenance
Vehicle for 1 year



office@mission-possible.ca



604-253-4469



@missionpossible_van



/MissionPossibleVancouver



@MPEastVan



Mission Possible