



Summer 2024



Empowering lives in the  
Downtown Eastside

## Noah's Story: Cultivating a New Life Through Work

When Noah first arrived at Mission Possible, it had been over a decade since he'd been employed.

Noah once had a thriving career in computer technology, but when he began using substances and drinking excessively, it was impossible to keep a job.

Noah knew he needed help, so he attended a recovery program and started working towards rejoining the workforce. "Seeing other people at work, that's something I envied," he shares, "I was missing that sense of community and the opportunity to earn money, but I'd been displaced from the industry for so long it was a bit daunting."

It took Noah two tries to find his footing at Mission Possible. The first time he enrolled in our Employment Readiness Program, he believed he was work ready. But that wasn't the case. He quickly realized he needed more time to work on his physical and mental health to be ready to fully engage, and returned to Mission Possible with a different outlook the second time.

His second start with the Clean Team was very different from the first. He was socializing with coworkers and accessing every wraparound support he could, including workshops, food security initiatives, and housing. Meeting with our Housing Support Coordinator had the biggest impact on Noah's life, moving him off a long waitlist and into stable housing for the first time in years.

---

648 East Hastings  
Vancouver, BC, V6A 1R1  
Coast Salish Territories  
(604) 253-4469

[mission-possible.ca](https://mission-possible.ca)

---

**With your support,  
people, like Noah, are  
transforming their  
lives through  
meaningful work.**

**Thank you!**



Feeling supported and more confident, he was ready to apply for permanent work opportunities outside of Mission Possible.

His coach recommended he consider a groundskeeper position with one of Mission Possible's Impact Employers, 2400 Motel, and before long he started his new role as the iconic building's full-time groundskeeper.

Since joining the team at 2400 Motel, Noah has worked to help improve the site to meet the diverse needs of the guests. From generating the motel's new grounds management plan to retrofitting the various equipment on site, he has enjoyed the diversity of the role, the autonomy afforded to him by motel management, and the goal of improving grounds conditions for the comfort of staff, visitors, and guests.

He feels that improving the landscaping around the rooms has been reflective of his journey so far. "It's almost like a metaphor for my life. Five years ago I was in a shocking place and really run down. Now, I'm in a much better place." He continues to feel supported in this new environment too, receiving positive feedback from both the community and management.

"Not only did I return to work, I have gotten a huge boost in my self-confidence and I have a home... If I can show people that it is possible to recover and there are services available that can help people, that's great," he shares.

Noah exemplifies the tenacity it takes to overcome barriers and return to work, and we are thrilled to continue to watch him create a sustainable livelihood for himself.



**Noah with his coach, Tara, at his Graduation from the Employment Readiness Program in June!**

## OUR REACH IN THE COMMUNITY

For people facing the significant barriers of homelessness, poverty, and addiction, the opportunity to secure meaningful work is often out of reach.

At Mission Possible, we believe in people's inherent capacity for growth. We take on the role of coach, empowering people as they access training programs, skill-building opportunities, and ultimately, work opportunities.

Here's a snapshot of our reach in the community last year!

397

397 people participated in 44 information sessions last year.

132

This led 132 people to begin work with our social enterprises.

45

Ultimately, 45 people transitioned to long term, stable employment.



## Women's Team Growth

Our Women's Team saw a 52% increase in enrolment from last year, with 33 women and non-binary people starting the program.



We recognize that for women and non-binary people, working in a co-ed environment can be a barrier in and of itself. In 2020, we developed the Women's Team to create a safe space for women and non-binary people to participate in our Employment Readiness Program.

The Women's Team removes barriers that women and non-binary associates face in the workplace through unique programming, professional development, and leadership opportunities. We also ensure more gender representation in day-to-day work.

Whether in the Women's Team or Co-Ed Team, the coaching, training, and work opportunities that associates gain through their experience with Mission Possible lower the barriers to employment.

## The Story of Your Impact in 2023-2024

Our Annual Report features a look back at what we accomplished together over the past year, as well as empowering stories from members of our community.

Grab a cup of coffee and dig into:

- Our CEO, Matt Smedley's, reflection on this past year
- Noah's story of transformation
- Our response to community needs
- Mission Possible's financial summary
- Taseko's story of partnership
- How you can help

Visit [www.mission-possible.ca](http://www.mission-possible.ca) for the full report!



### 2023-2024 ANNUAL REPORT



Thank you to our 2023 Mission Possible Gala partners!



## Save the Date for our 16th Annual Gala!

16TH ANNUAL  
**MISSION  
POSSIBLE**  
*Gala*

The 16th Annual Mission Possible Gala will be taking place the evening of Wednesday, November 27th at the Fairmont Waterfront this year!

Each year, gala guests gather to celebrate Mission Possible's achievements, recognize program participants, and hear stories of transformation. We are pleased to share that Taseko Mines will be our first ever Featured Partner this gala!

Interested in joining Taseko Mines and becoming a partner? Email [development@mission-possible.ca](mailto:development@mission-possible.ca) for more information.

Stay tuned for more information via email and social media!