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“Mission Possible gave me the lift I needed,” Oscar said. “Now I can save some money, and buy a camera for me to continue my study and filmmaking.”

Oscar

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Oscar's Story: From Uncertainty to Stability

When Oscar first walked through the doors of Mission Possible in 2021, he wasn't sure what to expect. After more than two decades of housing insecurity and employment challenges, Oscar had grown cautious. Diagnosed with schizophrenia in 1992, he had long struggled to find work environments that could accommodate his needs with compassion and understanding — even after graduating from film school in 2008.

But as financial pressures mounted, Oscar took a chance on something new.

A friend had told him about Mission Possible, and though hesitant at first, he decided to join the Employment Readiness Program. That decision marked the beginning of a new chapter.

Through consistent afternoon shifts on the Clean Team, Oscar found a routine that worked for him. He connected with his supervisors and peers, developed a sense of accountability, and regained confidence. Within four months, Oscar's compassion, reliability, and leadership were recognized, and he was promoted to Clean Team Lead.

With coaching and wraparound support, Oscar was also able to pursue a long-held dream: returning to university.

He enrolled in science and writing courses at UBC, continued participating in coaching sessions, and received guidance on job applications and goal-setting. Coaching played a pivotal role in helping him manage his mental health, improve his relationships, and set realistic career goals.



In recognition of his resilience, growth, and leadership, Oscar was honoured with Mission Possible's Momentum Award in 2024.

In 2023, Oscar secured a full-time role as a Kitchen Assistant at Goodly, one of Mission Possible's Employment Partners. Oscar now prepares meals for hospitals and works alongside a supportive team — finding both stability and a renewed sense of purpose in his work.

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When placed in a respectful and dignified workplace, such as Goodly, people thrive, and we're all so glad to see that Oscar has embraced Goodly's culture that fosters camaraderie and support.

Aart Schuurman Hess,
Goodly's CEO

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At 60 years old, Oscar is looking ahead with optimism. His current goal is to continue working for five more years before retiring. Along the way, he hopes to keep learning, growing, and reconnecting with his creative interests. He wishes to write a book to share his story. One day, he hopes to be able to pay back everything that Mission Possible has given him, as a gesture of gratitude and to help others find their way forward too.

Oscar's story is a powerful reminder that it's never too late to start again — and that with the right support, anything is possible. We are proud to walk alongside Oscar on his journey and are excited to see what his next chapter holds.

You can **donate to support** someone like Oscar today at www.mission-possible.ca/give

A MESSAGE FROM OUR Chief Empowerment Officer



Dear Friends,

Every day at Mission Possible, I have the privilege of seeing people take some of the most courageous steps of their lives. Whether it's walking through our doors for the first time, showing up to a workshop, or heading into a shift after years away from the workforce, these individuals are pursuing new possibilities with tenacity and determination. And none of the opportunities would happen without your support.

This year, we saw something truly meaningful: more people crossing the finish line! We celebrated a **24% increase in program graduates** — more individuals who stayed, grew, and achieved their goals. That means more people found steady work, built stability, and rediscovered their confidence.

Yet only about 10% of those seeking an opportunity were able to find one with us this year. The need still far outweighs what we can provide. We are committed to growing our program and our social enterprises to continue to close this gap and see more lives changed in the years ahead.

I hope this newsletter gives you a glimpse into the impact you've made and the lives you've helped change.



Matthew Smedley
Executive Director & Chief Empowerment Officer, Mission Possible

Our Reach In The Community

In this financial year, we are proud to share these milestones that represent people gaining stability, purpose, and renewed confidence.

148

Participants

began working with our social enterprises — **109 joined our Co-ed Team** and **39 joined our Women's Team** — marking a **12% increase** from the previous year.

1,200+

People

expressed interest in Mission Possible's Employment Readiness Program. This increasing level of interest is a powerful reminder of how many people are seeking support and the need in our community.

54%

of Associates

successfully transitioned into long-term employment out of those who graduated the Employment Readiness Program. Completion of the **full six-month program**, also increased by **29% year-over-year**.

A Year of Project Bridge in Action



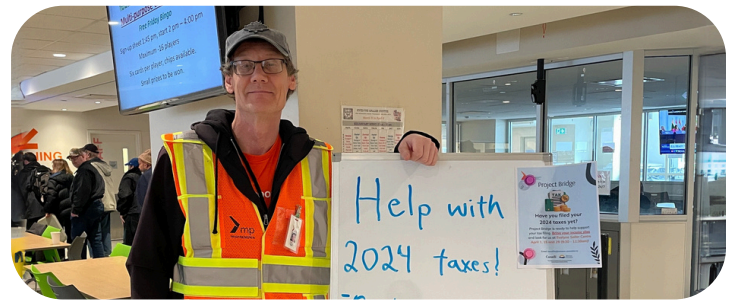
This program is funded by the Government of Canada and the Province of British Columbia.

For many of us, filing taxes is routine. But for people facing homelessness, unstable housing, or poverty, it can be a major roadblock — one that stands between them and the support they desperately need.



With 1 in 5 low-income Canadians missing out on tax benefits, Project Bridge is helping close the gap.

That's where Project Bridge comes in. Launched in 2024 by Mission Possible and funded by the Government of Canada and the Province of British Columbia, Project Bridge is a peer-led outreach initiative that works with community partners to help individuals in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside file their taxes and access government benefits. Many of the people we serve are eligible for critical support like housing supplements, GST rebates, and the



Canadian Dental Care Plan, but have difficulty accessing them due to barriers such as lack of valid ID, no fixed address, and limited access to banking or internet.

At the heart of the project are our Peer Tax Navigators — graduates of our Employment Readiness Program who faced similar challenges.

“We hear things like, ‘I didn’t think I could do this,’ or ‘I didn’t know I was eligible.’ We’re here to make the process clear and accessible for everyone,” says Dave, a Project Bridge Team Lead.

Tax season was a busy time for the team, with \$128,000 in tax returns going directly back into community members' pockets. With 501 tax intakes completed this year, we're excited to build on this foundation as Project Bridge continues through March 2026.

The 17th Annual Mission Possible Gala presented by Taseko Mines is back on November 26, 2025.



Join us for an evening of celebration transformation, and empowerment. Our gala is a powerful way to see the incredible impact we create together.

Visit www.mission-possible.ca/gala for more information about partnership opportunities, tables, and tickets.

Event Highlights Include:

- Momentum Awards
- Plated Three-Course Meal
- Live Entertainment
- Live Auction
- Online Silent Auction

We'll see you there!



Thank you to our 2024 Gala partners!