



ANNUAL | 2025 REPORT 2026





AT LOW ENTROPY, CHANGE STARTS FROM WITHIN

Our Mission

To empower people by creating opportunities for growth through skill-building, real-world experience, and community connection.

Our Vision

A world where every person has the tools, confidence, and community they need to thrive and contribute towards a kinder, caring, more compassionate world.

Our Values

Empowerment: We believe every person has the ability to grow from within. Our role is to create opportunities, not to “fix” or “save”, but to support individuals as they develop skills, confidence, and self-reliance.

Personal Responsibility: We encourage individuals to take ownership of their thoughts, feelings, and actions, knowing that lasting change begins with personal accountability.

Kindness & Respect: We treat everyone with dignity and empathy. We believe that addressing challenges directly and honestly, while remaining compassionate, build trust, strengthens relationships, and creates healthier communities.

Community Connection: We foster spaces where people feel they belong, build supportive relationships, and contribute meaningfully to the community.

Integrity: We act with honesty, consistency, and accountability in everything we do.

Growth & Learning: We value continuous development, offering both personal and professional skill-building that helps people reach their potential.

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THANK YOU

An expression of our gratitude



ANNUAL REVIEW

The year 2025/2026 was one of continued growth, connection, and evolution for Low Entropy Foundation. Across our programs, social enterprise, partnerships, and community events, we created opportunities for people to build skills, strengthen relationships, access support, and contribute meaningfully to their communities.

At Thrift & Fund, our social enterprise celebrated its second anniversary and continued to grow as both a community hub and a source of support for Low Entropy's charitable work. More than 150 people volunteered with the store throughout the year, contributing an estimated 20,000+ hours. From customer appreciation events and new community partnerships to the collaborative Human Kind portrait project, the store continued to demonstrate that a thrift store can be about much more than what is on the shelves.

Our programs continued to evolve in response to the people who participate in them. Women Rising welcomed approximately 100 participants across four events focused on wellbeing, financial empowerment, personal strengths, and sustainable leadership. Thrift & Thrive supported 40 youth in gaining hands-on work experience while expanding to include leadership development and mentorship. All participants completed the program, and approximately 80% continued volunteering at Thrift & Fund afterward.

Through our partnership with the Xwéwenaqw Xwexwilmexw Cultural Reclamation Society, Indigenous-led programming created spaces for cultural knowledge sharing, intergenerational connection, youth wellness, healing, and community safety. We also expanded employment-focused support through the launch of the Work Experience Opportunities Grant, alongside ongoing career coaching and community events that connected people with practical skills, resources, and opportunities.

As we reflect on the year, we are grateful for the volunteers, participants, staff, facilitators, Elders, Matriarchs, mentors, partners, funders, donors, and community members who make this work possible. Their contributions continue to shape Low Entropy and remind us that meaningful change is built through relationships. As we move into the next year, we remain committed to listening to our community, learning from experience, and creating spaces where people can connect, grow, and thrive.

IMPACT HIGHLIGHTS





WOMEN RISING

Building on the success of its first year, Women Rising continued to create welcoming spaces for women and gender-diverse people to learn, connect, and grow. This year's programming was shaped by feedback from participants in our inaugural year, helping us focus on the topics and experiences our community told us mattered most.



Across four events, approximately 100 participants of different ages, backgrounds, and career stages came together to explore personal and professional growth. Each gathering combined learning with opportunities for reflection, conversation, and relationship-building.

100 PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS



Resilience & Self-Compassion in Stressful Times

May 10, 2025 | Facilitated by Islena Faircrest

Money: Uplevelling

August 14, 2025 | Facilitated by Lindsey Lewis

The Curious Creator: Turning Everyday Skills into Extraordinary Opportunities

December 13, 2025 | Facilitated by Cindy Ference

Leading Without Losing Yourself: Self Care for Women Who Carry a Lot

March 3, 2026 | Facilitated by Rasie Bamigbade

"It offers a positive and safe space for women to grow and find community!"

— Women Rising Participant



WOMEN RISING

From building resilience and self-compassion during stressful times to examining our relationships with money, participants gained practical tools to support their wellbeing and confidence. Later events explored how everyday skills can become new opportunities and how women carrying significant responsibilities can lead without sacrificing their own wellbeing.

Together, the four events reflected a holistic approach to leadership, one that recognizes that growth is not only about developing professional skills, but also about understanding our strengths, caring for ourselves, building confidence, and finding community along the way.

Feedback collected following this year's events reinforced the value of creating spaces that are both practical and supportive. Participants highlighted opportunities for self-reflection, hands-on learning, meaningful conversation, and connection with other women.

It changed
my perspective
and relationship with
money.”

— Women Rising Participant





THRIFT & FUND

Thrift & Fund is more than a thrift store. As Low Entropy Foundation's social enterprise, it provides affordable second-hand goods while generating revenue to support our charitable programs. It is also a place for people to gain experience, build skills, form friendships, and find meaningful ways to contribute to their community.

In 2025, Thrift & Fund celebrated its second anniversary and continued to grow as a vibrant community hub. More than 150 people volunteered with the store throughout the year, with over 100 active volunteers regularly supporting its day-to-day operations. Volunteers contributed more than 20,000 hours of their time to the store.



150+

PEOPLE VOLUNTEERED
THROUGHOUT THE YEAR

20,000+

ESTIMATED VOLUNTEER HOURS

Love what this thrift store stands for and really appreciate that they're still sticking to old fashion, thrift prices! The fact that they have different deals throughout the week and very often offer 50% off the whole store, definitely makes an impact on the community and I've noticed there's a pretty high item turnover!

— Google Review



THRIFT & FUND

Community and creativity were also at the heart of the year. In collaboration with Vancouver-based photographer Natalia Forgacova, Thrift & Fund participated in the Human Kind Project, a colourful portrait series exploring identity, clothing, and community. Staff and volunteers stepped in front of the camera using clothing and props from the store, with the finished portraits displayed at Thrift & Fund and later published in a special edition of Likeness magazine.

EXPLORE THE HUMAN KIND PROJECT

[Click here](#) to view the special edition of Likeness magazine and meet the people behind the portraits.

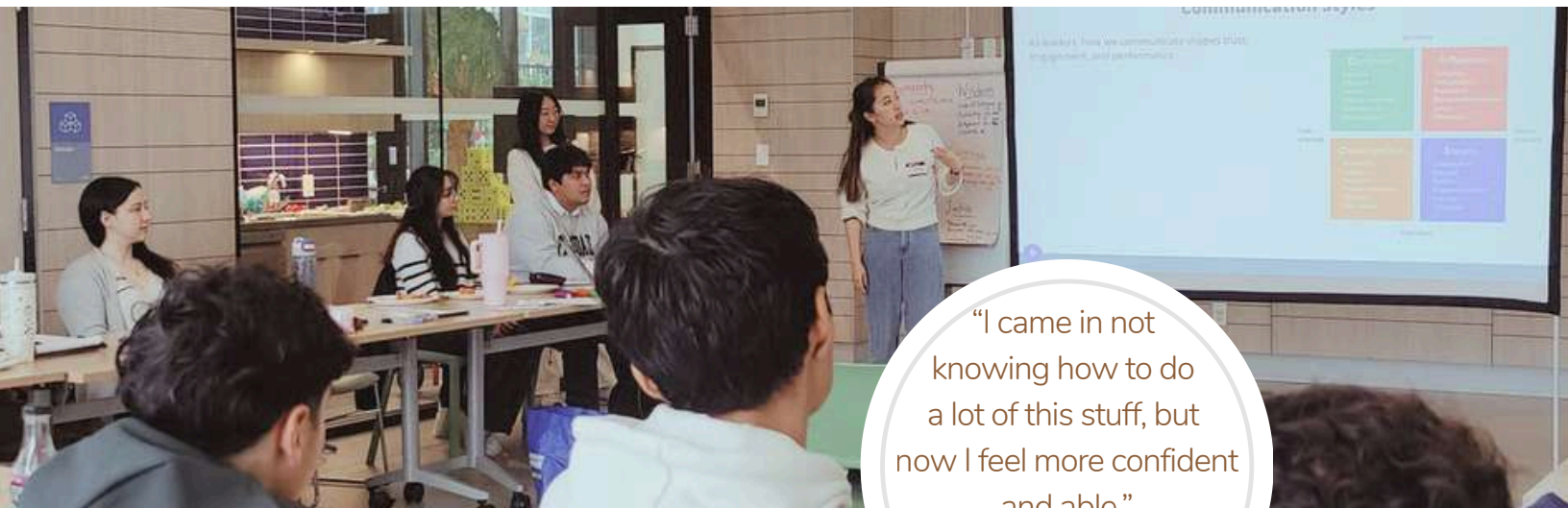
The store also strengthened connections within the nonprofit community through a new partnership with Community Ventures Society, bringing their DisDaBomb bath bombs into Thrift & Fund. Customer appreciation events throughout the year, including a summer celebration and Winter Fest, brought even more creativity and fun into the space, with activities such as photo booths and tarot readings.

Through every donated item, volunteer shift, partnership and community event, Thrift & Fund continues to demonstrate what a social-purpose store can be: a place to shop, contribute, learn, connect, and belong.



“Love
Thrift & Fund
— it makes me happy.”

— Jeremy, Volunteer
and Human Kind Project
Participant



"I came in not knowing how to do a lot of this stuff, but now I feel more confident and able."

— Thrift & Thrive Participant



THRIFT & THRIVE

Thrift & Thrive continued to grow this year, supporting 40 youth in building practical work experience, confidence, leadership skills, and meaningful connections.

Participants completed a minimum of eight hands-on shifts at Thrift & Fund, gaining experience in a real retail environment while working alongside staff, volunteers, customers, and other youth. This year, the program also expanded its focus on leadership, introducing workshops exploring communication, teamwork, goal setting, decision-making, values, personality, and different approaches to working with others.

"I learned so many valuable skills that I know I will be applying in high school and my professional career."

— Thrift & Thrive Participant

Mentorship became an increasingly important part of the program, providing youth with dedicated opportunities to reflect on their experiences, explore their goals, and learn from someone who could offer guidance and a different perspective. In the fall, participants were paired directly with mentors during the workshop series, and two former Thrift & Thrive participants returned as mentors themselves, bringing their experience full circle.

These changes were shaped by participant feedback and experience as we continued to strengthen the program. All 40 participants completed Thrift & Thrive, and approximately 80% continued volunteering at Thrift & Fund following the program, extending the relationships, skills, and sense of belonging they developed along the way.





INDIGENOUS PROGRAMS

In partnership with the Xwéwenaqw Xwexwilmexw Cultural Reclamation Society (Whonnock Society), Low Entropy Foundation continued to support Indigenous-led programming rooted in culture, connection, healing, safety, and the sharing of knowledge across generations.

Through Voices of the Matriarchs, Sacred Circle, the Youth Wellness Program, and the Red Flag Awareness Initiative, children, youth, adults, Matriarchs, and Elders came together throughout the year to strengthen cultural identity, share knowledge, support healing, and build community. Culture, Knowledge & Intergenerational Connection

Intergenerational connection remained at the heart of this work. Through Voices of the Matriarchs, 12 youth ages 10–15 participated in programming, nine Matriarchs received honorariums in recognition of the knowledge and leadership they shared, and 75 community members took part in program activities.

Elders and youth gathered regularly to share meals, stories, language, cultural teachings, art, and traditional knowledge. Activities included language and cultural workshops, art, Wisdom Sharing Circles, and opportunities for young people to learn directly from Elders and Matriarchs.

Through Sacred Circle, programming reached 16 children under 16, seven youth ages 17–30, and 22 Elders, creating further opportunities for healing, cultural connection, and belonging across generations.





INDIGENOUS PROGRAMS

Youth Wellness, Healing & Community Support

The Youth Wellness Program supported 48 Indigenous participants, alongside additional youth-focused activities that created safe and supportive opportunities for connection, recreation, learning, and healing.

Support extended beyond formal programming to respond to immediate needs within the community, including food assistance, transportation, help with bills, referrals to other services, and grief support led by Elders.

Our work addressing youth grief and loss directly engaged 24 youth during the year. In November, more than 300 community members gathered at the longhouse to honour youth lost to addiction. Through drumming and chanting, families and community members came together to grieve, remember their loved ones, and find strength in one another.



Community Safety

Through the Red Flag Awareness Initiative, more than 100 Indigenous women received education about Canada's Red Flag Laws and available pathways for seeking emergency restrictions on access to firearms when someone poses a safety risk.

Outreach took place directly within the community and through connections with women's shelters and partner organizations, helping ensure that important safety information reached women where they were.





PATHWAYS TO EMPLOYMENT

Low Entropy Foundation supports community members at different stages of their employment journeys—from exploring career options and preparing applications to gaining hands-on workplace experience.

WORK EXPERIENCE OPPORTUNITIES GRANT

With funding from United Way British Columbia, we launched the Work Experience Opportunities Grant (WEOG), providing four participants with supported work experience at Thrift & Fund.

All four participants successfully completed the program, gaining practical experience in a real retail environment while developing workplace skills, confidence, and relationships with staff, volunteers, and customers.

For some participants, the growth extended far beyond learning the day-to-day responsibilities of the store. Staff observed significant changes in confidence, communication, and independence as participants became increasingly comfortable contributing to the team and assisting customers.



CAREER COACHING

Through our free Career Coaching program, community members and Low Entropy volunteers received individualized support to help them take their next steps toward employment and career development.

Over the year, our team and volunteer career coaches provided one-on-one coaching to approximately 25 people, offering personalized guidance based on each person's goals and circumstances.

"One participant began the program very shy and unsure of himself. Over time, we watched his confidence grow tremendously. By the end, he knew his role in the store, connected comfortably with staff, and confidently answered customer questions. Our entire team was incredibly impressed by how much he had grown."

— Thrift & Fund staff



COMMUNITY EVENTS

Throughout the year, Low Entropy Foundation created additional opportunities for community members to connect, share resources, build skills, and learn from one another.

CLOTHING SWAP

April 26, 2025 | 100+ participants

More than 100 community members joined us at Coquitlam Public Library for a free Clothing Swap focused on sustainability, affordability, and sharing. Participants exchanged gently used clothing, giving items a new home while refreshing their own wardrobes in an accessible and environmentally conscious way.

Remaining clothing was donated to Thrift & Fund, extending the life of each item while supporting Low Entropy's community programs.



READY TO WORK: EMPLOYER INSIGHTS PANEL

January 25, 2026 | 30 participants

Thirty job seekers joined us for a practical conversation about navigating the hiring process and heard directly from employers about what they look for in candidates. Panelists Gucci and Ona shared insights on creating clear and effective resumes, making strong first impressions, preparing concrete examples for interviews, and communicating authentically rather than relying on scripted responses. Participants left with practical strategies to strengthen their applications and greater insight into the hiring process from the employer's side of the table.



FINANCIAL REPORTS

LOW ENTROPY FOUNDATIONS STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION MARCH 31, 2026

\$

	2026	2025
ASSETS		
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash	250,716	166,879
Accounts and funding receivable	57,158	12,427
GST refundable	917	1,101
Prepaid expenses and deposits	11,169	11,598
	<u>319,960</u>	<u>192,005</u>
EQUIPMENT (Note 4)	<u>6,318</u>	<u>10,028</u>
	<u>326,278</u>	<u>202,033</u>
LIABILITIES		
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Accounts, payable and accrued	28,835	26,249
Government remittance payable	13,941	10,730
Deferred grant funds	77,239	63,048
Deferred contribution – Capital assets	2,728	2,865
Deferred restricted donations	2,764	3,000
	<u>125,507</u>	<u>105,892</u>
NET ASSETS		
NET ASSETS	<u>200,771</u>	<u>96,141</u>
	<u>326,278</u>	<u>202,033</u>



FINANCIAL REPORTS

LOW ENTROPY FOUNDATION STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2026

	\$	2026	2025
REVENUE			
Donations		12,216	55,007
Federal Grants		198,429	333,044
Provincial Grants		30,000	69,840
Thrift store income (Note 5)		159,610	118,978
Other grants and income		183,536	197,531
		<u>583,791</u>	<u>774,400</u>
EXPENDITURES			
Amortization		5,554	10,189
Bank charges		1,459	1,604
Contractor costs		63,421	55,138
Disposition of asset		-	2,206
Legal and accounting		35,373	44,607
Insurance		729	1,768
Membership and dues		-	1,188
Office expenses		7,234	37,060
Phone and internet		1,241	2,723
Program delivery costs		75,282	60,835
Program manager		-	860
Rent and occupancy costs		3,476	70,397
Training and education		12,692	1,344
Travel		1,789	7,475
Wages and benefits		270,911	439,018
		<u>479,161</u>	<u>736,412</u>
EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENDITURES		<u>104,630</u>	<u>37,988</u>



FINANCIAL REPORTS

LOW ENTROPY FOUNDATION NOTES TO FINANCIAL INFORMATION MARCH 31, 2026

\$

5. THRIFT STORE OPERATIONS

LEF operates thrift store(s) in BC selling donated goods. Income generated from the thrift store is deemed as unrestricted revenue to LEF and has been a supplementary revenue source to support other under-funded programs. The thrift store is a branch of LEF, a registered charity and therefore not taxable. The income generated is used to support LEF's mission, mandate, projects and programs. The donors of thrift store are aware they are donating items to LEF.

The income and expenses for the thrift store are as follows:

	<u>2026</u>	<u>2025</u>
REVENUE		
Thrift store sales	474,500	481,133
Grants and other income	37,157	18,260
Wage subsidy	5,207	78,082
	<u>516,864</u>	<u>577,475</u>
EXPENDITURES		
Bank charges	5,815	5,927
Contractor costs	7,628	16,368
Marketing and social media management	3,976	24,025
Phone and internet	3,653	2,383
Program delivery costs	22,324	28,662
Rent and occupancy costs	109,691	125,248
Wages and benefits	204,167	255,884
	<u>357,254</u>	<u>458,497</u>
EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENDITURES	<u>159,610</u>	<u>118,978</u>



Clarissa

A high school student and former program participant, Clarissa is a wonderful part of our store team. An incredibly hard worker, she is always eager to take on new learning opportunities so she can continue growing and supporting our organization in meaningful ways.

Clarissa has a natural ability to build relationships and create an inclusive, welcoming environment for those around her.

Her dedication, curiosity, and care for others make a real impact on our team and community.

Jarred is a kind and reliable member of our volunteer team who is always ready to help wherever needed. He listens carefully to instructions, works well with everyone, and brings a positive presence to the store.

He especially enjoys sorting donated items and merchandising, and also supports the team at the cashier when needed. His flexibility and willingness to jump in make him a valued part of our day-to-day operations.



Jarred



Charity

Charity is a valued member of our volunteer team, known for her independence and initiative. She consistently takes the lead in her work while also being ready to step in and support others whenever needed.

Friendly, warm, and open, Charity helps create a welcoming environment for everyone in our store. Her positive energy and willingness to help make a meaningful impact on our team and community.

Heba has been a part of our volunteer team for the past few years, and her reliability and consistency have made her an invaluable part of our store.

Alongside her dedication, Heba is incredibly hardworking, kind, and caring. She takes great pride in her work, and it shows in everything she does.

Her steady presence and commitment have had a lasting impact on our team and community.



Heba



LOOKING AHEAD

FOCUSING ON THE FUTURE

As we look to 2026/2027, our focus is on building on what we have learned, strengthening the programs and partnerships that are making a difference, and continuing to respond to the evolving needs of our community.

Thrift & Fund will remain at the heart of our work as a social enterprise, community hub, and place for people to gain experience and contribute. Thrift & Thrive will continue to evolve, creating opportunities for youth to develop leadership skills, gain hands-on work experience, and learn alongside mentors. Our Indigenous partnerships will continue supporting culturally grounded, Indigenous-led opportunities for youth, families, Matriarchs, and Elders.

We are also excited to have received additional funding to expand the Work Experience Opportunities Grant (WEOG), allowing us to support more people in gaining meaningful work experience, developing workplace skills, and building confidence for their next steps.

As Low Entropy continues to grow and evolve, we remain committed to creating opportunities for people to connect, contribute, learn, and thrive.



LOW ENTROPY
FOUNDATION

OUR SUPPORTERS

Funded by the
Government
of Canada

Financé par le
gouvernement
du Canada

Canada 



Women and Gender
Equality Canada



AIR CANADA
FOUNDATION



community
action
initiative



Community Housing
Transformation Centre
Centre de transformation
du logement communautaire



FIRST PEOPLES'
CULTURAL COUNCIL



Future Launch



United Way
British Columbia

WESTJET 

Thank You

Everything we do at Low Entropy Foundation is made possible by people who believe in the power of community.

To our volunteers, thank you for the thousands of hours you give, the skills and experiences you share, and the care you bring to our programs and Thrift & Fund every day.

To our participants and community members, thank you for trusting us, learning alongside us, sharing your experiences, and helping us continue to grow and improve.

To our staff, facilitators, mentors, Elders, Matriarchs, practicum students, and community partners, thank you for bringing your knowledge, leadership, creativity, and compassion to this work.

And to our funders, sponsors, donors, customers, and supporters, thank you for investing in our mission and making it possible for us to continue creating accessible opportunities for connection, growth, and empowerment.

Every contribution, whether it is time, knowledge, funding, a donation, a partnership, or simply showing up, helps strengthen the community we are building together.

Thank you for being part of Low Entropy. We look forward to continuing this work together.





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