

**2023-2024**

**L'ARCHE  
GREATER  
VANCOUVER  
ANNUAL  
REPORT**



**L'ARCHE®**  
Greater Vancouver



# OUR IDENTITY

## REFLECTIONS ON OUR MISSION AND IDENTITY

L'Arche is a community where the members, with and without developmental disabilities, share life together. Each member receives support to grow, attain their goals, and contribute their gifts and abilities.

Life-sharing breaks down the barriers in the traditional caregiving relationship. Mutual care, respect, and compassion transform these relationships. The persons supported and those who support them help each other reach their full potential.

L'Arche does not exist for itself. We participate in and contribute to the life of our families, neighbourhood, and city, and the faith, cultural, service, and recreational organizations where we live.

L'Arche provides supports for persons with developmental disabilities to have mutual, caring relationships, a personal spiritual journey, a home, meaningful work/daytime activity, and belonging in their communities of interest.

Each person has a personal support plan developed by listening to their hopes and dreams, choices, and goals. The plan responds to their care needs as they change over time. Their circle of support helps individuals meet their goals for a full and meaningful life.

## BOARDS OF DIRECTORS

### L'Arche Greater Vancouver

Jim Lattimer, President  
Grant T. Smith, Vice President/Secretary/  
Treasurer  
Rev. Daniel Kirkegaard, Director  
Ric Tesan, Director  
Renee Lopes Lieu, Director  
Antonio Daling, Director  
FeiFei Peng, Non-Voting Member

### L'Arche Foundation

Patrick Armstrong, President  
Jim Lattimer, Co-President  
Amanda Wong, Vice-President  
Nate Chiu, Director  
Kamil Aliyev, Director  
Antonio Daling, Director  
Audrey Staudacher, Director  
FeiFei Peng, Non-Voting Member

### L'Arche Housing Society

Dan Kirkegaard, President  
Grant T. Smith, Vice President  
Donna Diskos, Treasurer  
Peter Ruetz, Director  
Kamil Aliyev, Director  
FeiFei Peng, Non-Voting Member

## Land Acknowledgement

We humbly acknowledge that we live, learn, grow, work, and build community on the unceded, ancestral, traditional, and occupied homelands of the xʷməθkwəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and Səlilwətaʔ/Selilwitulh (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations.



# ABOUT L'ARCHE GREATER VANCOUVER

L'Arche Greater Vancouver was founded in 1974 and the first residents to come into the community were young people from institutions that housed people with developmental disabilities. At L'Arche people with developmental disabilities are often referred to as “core people” since they are the heart of our community.

We have four homes in which 18 core people share life together with those who assist them. We welcome people of all religions, races, genders, and cultural backgrounds and support each person's spiritual journey. This simple approach to shared living between core people and assistants is a unique lifestyle, and often a transformational experience.

We also have two community inclusion programs with 19 participants. The Emmaus Day Program aims to build security and belonging through relationships by participating in meaningful, recreational, social, and volunteer outreach opportunities. Activities respect the abilities and autonomy of each individual while encouraging them to grow in their relationships with others.

The second program, Neighbours Helping Neighbours, gives people with disabilities the opportunity to serve the wider community by providing yard work, simple maintenance, and chores for the elderly and others who aren't physically able to perform these tasks.

Our philosophy is that whatever their gifts or their limitations, people are all bound together in common humanity. Everyone is of unique and sacred value, and everyone has the same dignity and the same rights. The fundamental rights of each person include the rights to life, care, a home, education, and work.

Since the deepest need of a human being is to love and to be loved, each person has the right to friendship, communion, and to spiritual life.

Our Community Inclusion programs and administrative offices are located in L'Arche's temporary location on Conway Avenue in Burnaby while we await the completion of our new building in 2024.





# MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR/ COMMUNITY LEADER



As I write this, we are months from moving into our new building. After years of dreaming, planning, meetings, and fundraising, it's finally happening!

Amid this busy planning and imagining life in the new building, I want to look at all that we've experienced in the last year.

Once again, the people in our homes and programs have been our teachers. Many of them will be moving into the new building, their home and housemates will be different. Even though there is a great deal of change ahead, people have remained calm. I see people who are patient and resilient in the face of change.

I also see people in our community who are aging and have growing care needs. Some have had to be hospitalized in the last year. The house team and the rest of the community visited regularly so they would not be lonely in the hospital. Other team members made sure that everyone else in that person's home was taken care of. I see a constant stream of kindness in our community.

As we watched the building's completion, we also made sure we were ready to welcome the new people who will be joining our community. I am so grateful for everyone's patience and hard work as we developed the tools and policies we need to have in place before we move in. I am grateful that Elizabeth Law agreed to be our project manager. Because of her direction and the team's hard work, I see a well-prepared community with a plan. We are moving forward with confidence.

Despite these changes, life in the community has continued. People went on retreats where they had time to reflect and build relationships with each other. We celebrated being 49 years old with special activities and remembrances. We continued to hold our Community Prayer afternoons with songs, readings, and opportunities for people to bring their concerns and thanks to God. I see a community that is faithful to its mission. With all the changes happening around us, we are still "us."

Since this is the last report I will write from my office at our temporary location, I want to repeat my thanks to everyone who has helped us in this journey. To our Board members who have provided wise counsel and encouragement. To the leadership and admin team, who often take on extra duties to make sure we have what we need going forward. To people who work in our homes and programs who continue to show compassion. To the people we serve who often serve us. To our donors who have made our vision their own. Thank you.

Respectfully,

FeiFei Peng  
Community Leader/Executive Director



# MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENTS



We're getting ready to move into our beautiful new home! Over the past few months, we have had the opportunity to tour the building while it's been under construction. It's been amazing to see how our dreams and plans have come together. Soon the whole L'Arche community will be able to enjoy the courtyard with its view of David Gray Park and experience the sights from the rooftop garden.

We are always aware that this building would not be possible without the people who contributed to our We All Belong capital campaign. Your generosity is bringing us closer to our goal. We thank Townline Builders and City Spaces Consulting for their expertise in developing our project.

We are also aware of the friends who have supported our community over the years by contributing to our general needs. It is with your support that we have been able to meet the day-to-day needs of the people in our homes and programs.

Jim would like to thank the L'Arche Greater Vancouver Operations Board for their knowledge that they share so willingly: Dan Kirkegaard, Grant T. Smith, James Dorsey, Renee Lopes Lieu, Ric Tesan and Antonio Daling. We will be adding 3 new members to this board at our AGM.

Patrick would also like to thank the L'Arche Foundation Greater Vancouver Board: Jim Lattimer, Amanda Wong, Audrey Staudacher, Nate Chiu, Antonio Daling and Kam Aliyev for their ongoing support and expertise. We would like to thank Kam for his knowledge and service for the past two years.

A big thank you to the Housing Society: Dan Kirkegaard, Grant T. Smith, Peter Lueck, and Donna Diskos for their commitment to seeing our new building become a reality.

L'Arche is a truly special community and I am made aware of that each time I visit the Conway Center, attend community functions, participate in board meetings and talk to donors. Our core members are lovingly cared for by our truly dedicated staff and numerous volunteers.

In conclusion, we thank all of our dedicated employees, amazing volunteers, and wonderful donors for their continued support of our L'Arche Greater Vancouver mission.

It will be a very exciting and busy few months as we prepare to move into our new building in July.

respectfully submitted,

Jim Lattimer  
President  
L'Arche Greater Vancouver Board

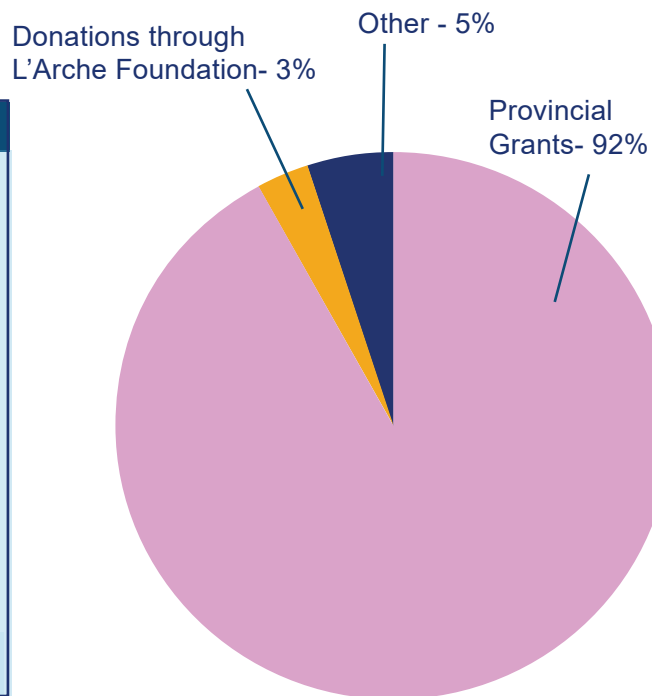
Patrick Armstrong  
President  
L'Arche Foundation Board



# FINANCIALS

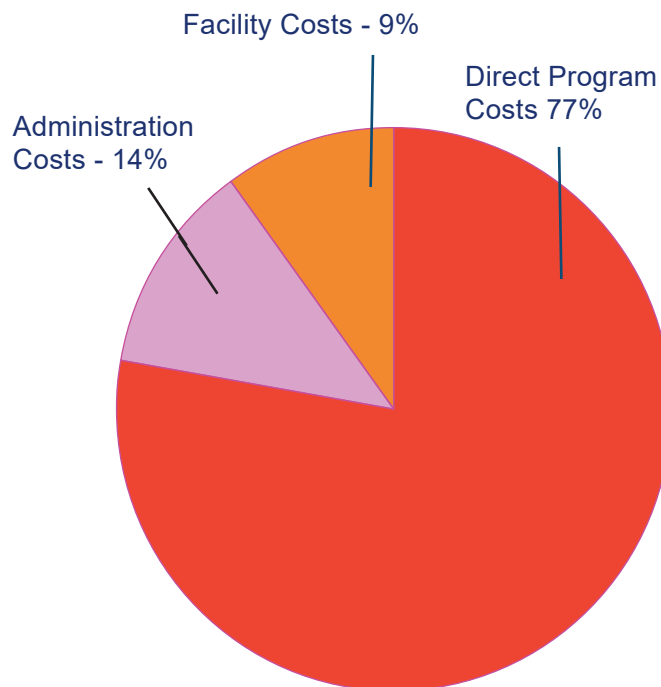
## REVENUE

Provincial Grants	\$ 3,488,000
L'Arche Foundation of Greater Vancouver	\$ 109,000
Other	\$ 190,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 3,787,000</b>



## EXPENSES

Direct Program Costs	\$ 2,893,000
Facility Costs	\$ 344,000
Administration Costs	\$ 538,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 3,775,000</b>





# SUPPORTING ORGANIZATIONS

Agape Catholic Charities Fund held at Vancouver Foundation  
Andrew Mahon Foundation  
BC Housing  
Catholic Women's League - Immaculate Conception Parish  
Catholic Women's League of St. Joseph's Church  
Celtic Cross Charitable Foundation  
City of Burnaby  
CitySpaces Consulting  
Cloverdale Nursery Ltd  
Columbia-Bowell Funeral Chapel  
Community Living BC  
Digitally Hip Corporation  
Estate of Arthur Missler  
Estate of Mary Meyers  
Famee Furlane of Vancouver  
First Christian Reformed Church of New Westminster  
J & G Servant Foundation  
Jubilee United Church Women  
Kiwans Vancouver Welfare Foundation  
Knights of Columbus Council No. 8853  
Knights of Columbus, Holy Cross Council, No. 5423  
L'Arche Canada  
Living Hope Fellowship

M. J. Murdock Charitable Trust  
Mackin Creek Farm  
Marion Man and Scott Shaw Foundation  
Matrix Design Graphics  
McGuire Family Foundation  
McNamara Family Fund  
Mount Pleasant War Memorial Community Cooperative Association  
Patrick and Elizabeth Hill Charitable Fund  
Provincial Employees Community Services Fund  
Raymond James Canada Foundation  
Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Vancouver  
Royal Bank of Canada Foundation  
Saint Anthony of Padua Fraternity, S.F.O.  
Saint Anthony of Padua Parish  
Saint Francis de Sales Catholic Women's League  
Saint John's Anglican Church ACW  
Saint Mary's Catholic Women's League Council 3093  
Saint Mary's Health Foundation  
Saint Nicholas Parish Catholic Women's League  
Schmidt Brothers Mechanical Ltd.  
Sisters of Instruction of the Child Jesus  
Sisters of St. Joseph of Sault St Marie  
The Giustra Foundation  
Tundra Sales Inc.  
VanCity, South Burnaby Community Branch  
Virginia's Arc Private Foundation



Thank you to our generous donors.  
We couldn't be L'Arche without you.



# OUR BIG NUMBERS



## Emmaus Community Inclusion Program

- Bowled **4,400** 10-pin balls
- Celebrated 32 birthdays
- Made meals for **1,358** people throughout the year
- Baked **1,128** cookies along with countless muffins and cakes



## Neighbours Helping Neighbours

- Served **36** regular customers
- Shoveled snow from **19** driveways and sidewalks
- Weeded and raked **84** times
- Cleaned common areas at L'Arche's Conway location **63** times
- Cut **149** lawns



## Emily House

- Did **102** zumba dance classes together
- Shared **672** meals
- Watched the TV show "MASH" **365** times



## Nazirah House

- Theresa created **303** cards
- We had **12** BBQ's
- Barbara went on **59** outings
- Lawrence bought **244** books



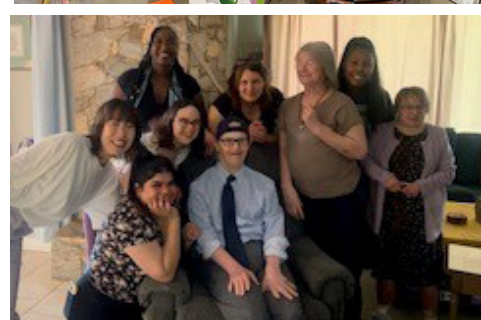
## Creation House

- Ilonka created **56** colourful umbrellas for decorating cards
- Alex, Arthur, and Wayne visited **43** different restaurants for lunch
- Wayne took **8** different bus routes during his outings, and said "Hello" to countless people



## The Crossing House

- Celebrated **2** BIG birthdays - **65** and **75**
- Celebrated **3** L'Arche anniversaries - **20**, **25** and **40**
- We had **14** parties
- We went out together at least **52** times





# INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION ASSEMBLY

In June we gathered with other L'Arche communities around the world for the L'Arche International Federation Assembly. Tao and Christina were appointed as our official delegates. However, because this was the first time the Federation meetings were on-line we all could attend and participate. We heard reports from different communities in various countries, participated in activities, and celebrated our achievements.

Being together inspired and reminded us that we are part of a big family with a shared mission and identity.





# WE ALL BELONG CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

## MAJOR COMPONENTS

- Courtyard
- Big Living Room
- Common Kitchen
- Welcome Area/Lounge
- 3 accessible L'Arche homes
- Rooftop Garden and Chapel
- 2 Community Inclusion Programs
- 10 Suites for adults with developmental disabilities who can live semi-independently

- 29 Units of affordable Housing for individuals and families who want to be part of our intentional community

## UPDATES

- Since the campaign started 825 friends of L'Arche have contributed to making this dream become a reality
- We are grateful to everyone who has helped us reach this point in our journey. We look forward to the summer of 2024 when we expect to take occupancy of our new home.



One of the rental units - September 2023



Front of the building - February 2024



L'Arche home - August 2023



Rooftop amenity room - October 2023





# WE ALL BELONG CAPITAL CAMPAIGN







"Maple Leaves - Fall"  
by Yvonne and Shakkeela, Art Together 2023



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