

Unbelievable Impact

2023-2024
ANNUAL REPORT



A Year of Opportunities and Growth

It is with immense joy that we reflect on the past year at BGC Dawson—a year where opportunity truly changed everything for our members, staff, and organization. As we navigate through unprecedented times, our commitment to providing exceptional programs and services has never wavered, thanks to the unwavering support of our community and partners.

This year, we have proudly offered a diverse range of high-quality programs tailored to various age groups, ensuring that each member of our community finds opportunities for growth, learning, and personal development. From early childhood's parent-child activities to innovative after-school programs, youth leadership initiatives, and thoughtfully tailored services for seniors, our programs have touched lives and created lasting impact.

Our services have extended beyond our walls, strengthening partnerships and fostering a profound sense of belonging, respect, encouragement, and empowerment throughout our community. Our leadership in the Networking and Partnership Initiative (NPI) within the Montreal English Speaking Community Network has exemplified our dedication to collaboration and advocacy for community well-being.

None of this would have been possible without the steadfast support of our core funders: BGC Canada, Centraide, CHSSN and all levels of government. Your belief in our mission and generous contributions have enabled us to innovate, expand our reach, and continue providing vital services to those who rely on us the most. Your partnership is not just appreciated; it is fundamental to our ability to make a difference.

Just as vital to our success are the dedicated volunteers, staff, and board members who have selflessly devoted their time, energy, and talents to our mission. Your commitment and passion have been the driving force behind our impactful programs and services, ensuring that we meet the evolving needs of our community with compassion and excellence.

As we celebrate our achievements this year, let us also look forward with optimism and determination. Together, we will continue to build upon our successes, create more opportunities for growth and transformation, and uphold our commitment to serving our community with integrity and dedication.

Thank you for your unwavering support and belief in the mission of BGC Dawson. Together, we are changing lives and shaping futures.



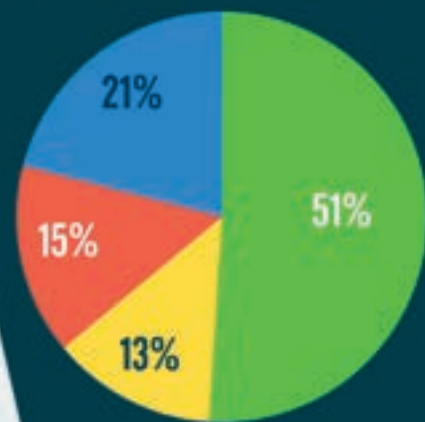
Alicia Mancini
President, Board
of Directors

Who we are

With deep roots in the English-speaking community in Verdun since 1959, BGC Dawson is a safe and supportive community centre that offers a wide range of educational, recreational, and social programs.



Who we serve



- 0-4 years old
- 5-12 years old
- 13-30 years old
- 50 years old and up



our mission

To provide a safe and supportive place where children, youth, adults, and seniors can experience new opportunities, overcome barriers, build positive relationships, and develop confidence and skills for life.

our vision

All members of the community discover and achieve their dreams to be healthy, successful, and active participants in society.

our values

belonging

We welcome everyone in a safe, accepting environment based on belonging and positive relationships.



respect

We ensure that everyone—children, youth, adults, seniors, volunteers, staff—is heard, valued, and treated fairly.



encouragement and empowerment



We encourage and support each individual to explore, learn, and develop skills to achieve their dreams.

working together



We collaborate with young people, adults, families, seniors, volunteers, organizations and government to support meaningful participation and positive contributions in the community.

speaking out

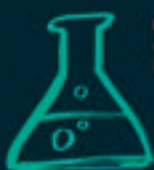
We speak out for children, youth, and families so that we can make our world better.



after school programs



homework help



digital literacy

stem education



Saturday Programs

pre-employment initiative



financial literacy

civic engagement



scholarships

volunteering

Community Action Projects

arts music

youth leadership

school perseverance

mentorship



Dawson



What We Do



spring and summer camps



parenting education & support

teen dating violence prevention

physical fitness & sports

mental health & wellness



early childhood education

tax clinic



recreational activities for seniors

healthy snacks



nutrition & food education

open gym and yoga

thomas more institute

Early Childhood Education

BGC Dawson families program just keeps growing! This year has been an incredible period of growth for both our program and our members. It's been a pleasure to watch our members achieve big and small milestones alike, and celebrating these moments with Dawson families has been a joy.

In June, we successfully hosted the "Welcome to Kindergarten Event," where parents explored various community programs. We enjoyed connecting with our community through Summer Parks programming and enriched our offerings by collaborating with partners like CCS, Riverview, Verdun Circus School, Giant Steps, CONTACT, Biblio de Verdun, and JAME to provide services and workshops.

Our art and open room plays have welcomed many families, providing space for parents to connect and for children to unleash their creativity through play and art. Our age-specific programs, Leap Frogs and Busy Bees, have had an amazing year of learning through play. Leap Frogs has been a wonderful program for children aged 3-5, preparing them for school by building skills such as autonomy, independence, self-discovery, and effective communication.



- 352 hours of respite and multiage programs**
- 272 hours of age specific programs**
- 236 parent support programming**
- 86 children including 58 new families, 28 returning**

Our program provided in-person activities for up to 50 families, five days a week for 36 weeks, catering to various needs and developmental stages on social, gross and fine motor, cognitive, and language development and providing a parent engagement and support opportunities.

Children Programs

The children's programs are where the fun is! Our main goal is for each child to feel seen, heard, safe and know that BGC Dawson is a place where they can truly be themselves. Separated into three distinct departments; Day camps, After-School and Saturday Program, we were able to provide families quality programs this year.

We know that afterschool hours are the most vulnerable time of the day for children. Our team is here to support them with their homework, offer recreational games, and provide opportunities to enhance their uniqueness and individual interests through clubs tailored to their passions. This year's clubs include Drama, Book Club, Dance, Lego, Photography, Coding, Art, and S'magic!

- 242 Active Memberships
- 1,240 hours of program activities
- 120 hours of free Saturday Programs
- 87% participation increase for our Dawson Dances - pre-covid numbers!



During the summer, you could find us in the parks, swimming at the Natatorium, dressed up in theme day characters and exploring the city. We accommodated 70 campers per week, totaling 126 individual campers over 8 weeks. We hired 20 young adults, 10 of whom grew up in our camp and returned to work or volunteer in our fall afterschool program. This summer, we emphasized building relationships and developing interpersonal skills. The rainy and humid weather provided us an opportunity to refocus on creating a safe space for children to thrive, learn, and enjoy being kids. While big outings are invaluable, especially for families who can't afford them, we balanced them with quality programming.

Our team also had the opportunity to attend 12 training workshops to enhance their animation skills. These included: Keeping Girls in Sports, Supporting Positive Behaviors, Welcoming All Abilities, Animation Training and Group Intervention, Inclusion and Adaptable Programs, Understanding Behaviors, Understanding Autism, Sexual Violence Prevention for Children Aged 0 to 5, Sexualized Behavior Problems and Sexual Assault Disclosures Among Children Aged 6 to 12 in School Settings, and Safer Spaces.

Youth Programs

600+ participants

43 youth attended our education program "Learn On" with a total of 590 hrs

23 youth completed our leadership & volunteer program "Lead Up" with a total of 797 community + training + service hours

7 Youth Council members proudly represented BGC Dawson, Qc at the BGC Canada National Youth Forum 2023 in Vancouver, BC.

"After completing my service hours in the Spring Camp, I now want to work at BGC Dawson in the Day Camp. This opportunity has given me the confidence that I could work with children and be a good role model." - Christian, 16 years old youth member

This year, our Youth Programs have focused on empowering preteens, teens and young adults to speak on issues impacting them through specialized programs, group discussions, and mentorship. Through our leadership initiatives, we have created platforms for youth to express their views and take active roles in decision-making processes. Our Youth Council and leadership initiatives have further empowered young individuals to lead and advocate for their communities.

Our members have participated in various workshops, created digital stories, and presented our community action project, "Belonging in Montreal," to decision-makers. This project, in collaboration with Equitas - International Centre for Human Rights Education, highlights the importance of inclusion and belonging in our city. Our dedicated youth workers participated in a training session with The Students Commission of Canada, where we engaged in meaningful discussions about the experiences of Indigenous and newcomer communities across Canada's provinces and territories.

These efforts have resulted in meaningful youth engagement, stronger community connections, and a more inclusive environment. As we move forward, we remain dedicated to empowering young people and making a lasting social impact through our Youth Programs.



Seniors 50+

The Seniors Program provides social, educational and recreational programs and services to members of our community over the age of 50. This year, 145 senior members took part in our programs and services.

The Seniors Program has successfully extended another year, offering enriching social, recreational, and educational initiatives. It provides a welcoming environment for seniors to connect, fostering a sense of community and alleviating isolation. Each program promotes wellness and social engagement, keeping our clients active both physically and mentally.

This year, the program saw an increase of participation marking a consistent rise from previous years. This figure reflects the frequency of individuals attending the programs. Dawson warmly embraced new members, enhancing the inclusivity of our groups. We introduced new programs based on our clients' interests, such as the popular drumming sessions and the revival of Quilting & Crafts after a six-year hiatus.

In April, we organized a series of SHARP health and wellness workshops for senior participants. These workshops covered essential topics like "Aging in Place while Downsizing," "Cognitive Health," and "Fall Prevention," providing valuable information and laying the groundwork for future workshops.

The communal aspect of the program was highlighted through shared meals at Chalet BBQ and Beans lunch gatherings, bringing our group together for special occasions.

Our programs are designed to help keep seniors active, both physically and mentally. Moreover, the program strives to instill a sense of belonging among seniors while breaking down social isolation and enhancing overall health and well-being.

In November 2022 a survey was conducted among members of our fitness classes to gain a better understanding of their programming wishes. This process led to the creation of a Seniors Committee in February 2023 to develop an action plan based on the ideas collected from the survey. We are happy to share that as a result of this process, two new activities were launched this year for seniors: Toning and Pickle-Ball!

- 145 senior members
- 17 different program activities
- 507 recreation activity hours
- 325 health and wellness activities



Financial Summary

DAWSON COMMUNITY CENTRE
BGC DAWSON

APRIL 1, 2023 - MARCH 31, 2024



CHARITABLE BUSINESS
REGISTRATION NUMBER:

106890056 RR 0001

BALANCE SHEET

March 31, 2024 with comparative information for 2023

	2024	2023
ASSETS		
Current assets:		
Cash	\$ 368,917	\$ 403,403
Short-term investments	218,914	332,715
Debtors	99,231	125,827
Prepaid expenses	18,871	9,782
	\$ 695,933	\$ 871,727
Fixed assets	\$ 424,832	\$ 347,341
	\$ 1,120,765	\$ 1,219,067
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
Current liabilities:		
Creditors	\$ 56,493	\$ 76,674
Amount held in trust (Fiduciary)	23,342	18,972
Camp revenue paid in advance	17,860	-
Deferred contributions	26,000	-
Deferred contributions related to fixed assets	143,940	59,714
	\$ 308,240	\$ 355,360
Net assets:		
Building Renovation Fund	\$ 16,973	\$ 437,089
Queen Dawson Fund	27,265	27,265
Dawson Trust Fund	16,981	16,981
Invested in fixed assets	603,180	230,420
Unrestricted	348,246	288,672
	\$ 1,062,585	\$ 1,014,267
	\$ 1,381,825	\$ 1,267,967

STATEMENT OF REVENUE AND EXPENSES

March 31, 2024 with comparative information for 2023

	2024	2023
REVENUE		
Grants		
Centraide	\$ 250,360	\$ 270,880
BGC Canada	121,302	99,606
Provincial grants	216,150	237,262
Federal grants	165,246	94,126
Municipal grants (Venture)	184,733	60,016
Mobile Market (Brand Postage)	-	34,200
Raise the Grade	16,000	35,000
Activities	164,558	186,472
Private sector program contributions	79,819	101,832
Donations	34,541	35,925
Fundraising and others	16,173	2,611
Membership	5,709	5,820
Interest income	16,351	8,854
Amortization of deferred contributions related to fixed assets	15,769	7,623
	\$ 1,277,412	\$ 1,268,698
EXPENSES		
Salaries	\$ 1,014,707	\$ 853,404
Other program expenses	86,499	127,789
Professional fees	21,009	22,581
Repairs and maintenance	28,762	52,070
Administrative expenses	29,819	29,062
Heating and electricity	23,396	26,581
Depreciation of fixed assets	22,885	16,140
Insurance	21,384	11,949
Municipal and school taxes	8,983	1,695
Non-recoverable taxes	11,493	10,416
Association dues and training	13,124	8,950
Equipment, repairs and website	1,275	1,960
	\$ 1,308,094	\$ 1,295,923
ACTIVITIES MANAGED AS A FIDUCIARY		
Revenues - Centraide	118,553	114,587
Expenses - Centraide	76,553	114,587
	\$ 42,000	\$ 0
Excess of revenue over expenses	\$ 63,218	\$ 32,195

REVENUE

27%

Foundations/
Grants

43%

Government

21%

Program
Revenue/
Membership

9%

Donations/
Other



EXPENSES BY FUNCTION

87%

Program
Delivery

11%

Administration

2%

Fund
Development



THANK YOU

to our major funders, supporters and partners for their outstanding commitment to changing lives



SUPPORTERS

Best Buy
Calgary Foundation
Canadian Tire Jumpstart Charities
CIUSSS du Centre-Sud-de-l'Île-de-Montréal
CN Employees and Pensioners Community Fund
Club Lions de Verdun
Concertation en développement social de Verdun
Coca Cola Foundation
Edelman Canada
Erin Sports Association
Equitas
FQCCL
Fidelity Investments
Fondation Lucie et André Chagnon
Fondation Richelieu Verdun
GAP
Giant Tiger
Hershey's Canada
Indigo Love of Reading
JumpStart Charities
Jays Care Foundation
Kleenex
La Rue Inspire
Lester B. Pearson School Board
Moisson Montréal

Montreal Canadiens Children's Foundation
Old Navy
OSL
President's Choice Children's Charity
RBC Future Launch
Southwest United Church
St Andrew's Society of Montreal
St Matthias' Anglican Church
St Patrick's Society
TD Friends of the Environment
Ted Rogers Scholarship Fund
Telus
University Women's Club of Montreal
UPS
Wackers Golf Tournament

COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIPS

ABC Life Literacy Canada
Action Prévention Verdun
Ancre des jeunes
Anglo Family Council
Beurling Academy
Casa C.A.F.I
CAUS
Centre de formation Professionnelle de Verdun (CFPV)
Children's World Academy

Concordia University
Community Learning Centre
CPE Riverview
CCS
Dawson College
École de cirque de Verdun
JAME - J'apprends avec mon enfant
La maison de l'environnement
Lester B. Person School Board
Les Fruits Défendus
Literacy Quebec
Little Burgundy Shoes
McGill University
Project 10
RECLAIM Literacy
Riverview Elementary School
Suspicious Fish
Table de concertation des ressources pour aînés de Verdun (TCRAV)
Table de Concertation Famille de Verdun (TCFV)
Table de Concertation Jeunesse Verdun (TCJV)
Thomas More Institute
Toujours Ensemble
Trajet
Verdun Adult and Career Centre
Verdun Elementary School
YMCA

Our Team



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Marjorie Clarke

Vice President

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Jacquie Walker

Leadership Team

Myra Leib

Executive Director

Marie Rousseau

Director of Finance &
Administration

Cindy Cohen

Director of Programs
Children Programs Coordinator

Darley Polony

Director of Programs
Youth Programs Coordinator

Full-Time Staff

Joanne Eberlin

Administrative Secretary

Marc Paradis

Seniors 50+ Program
Coordinator

Christopher Curtis-Brunet

Maintenance Coordinator

Part-Time Staff

Abassalian, Ghazeleh
Ahmed, Shakera
Alfaro-Cromwell, Lyric
Alfaro-Cromwell, Sky
Anderson, Katie Laine
Auger, Austin
Bani Heea, Sarah
Bassenden, Katerina
Carriere, Brayden
Carriere, Emmet
Cumberbatch, Sherwin
De Rosa, Arianne
Dewling, Rachel
Dixon, Kyle
Emar, Zoe
Estrada, Garcia, Sharon
Ferdinand -Benoit, Nasir
Filler, Caroline
Gardener, Vincent
Gear, Sabrina
Kadkhodaei-Bastien, Cindy

Kanzler, Louise
Koukolas, Christina
Kung'U, Zayden
Lavergne, Muriel
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Lian, Andrea
Lopez, Josee
Lucas, Autumn
Madison, Thomas
Makis, Tasha
Mantha, Luc*
Martin, Dayna
Martin, Kareem
Mckirdy, Grace
Methot Pizzi, Jeremy
O'Hara George, Jacoba
Page Swan, Alexandra
Poirier, Diane
Polito, Chad*
Pouliezos, Kristina
Pursue-Rodney, Aaliyah

Renzelli, Brenden
Sahinovic, Hanna
Samuels, Ishlah
Sivasundram, Kasmetha
Taheri, Kayan
Teodori, Daniel
Tomiuk, Romy Elise
Vitale, Joseph-Salvatore
Wang, Yufei Gabriel*
Waplinton, Nathaniel
Williams, Ciaran
Zhong, Qiqi

* Departures



bgcdawson.ca

[f](#) [t](#) [@](#) /bgcdawson

BGC Dawson
666 rue Woodland
Verdun, QC H4H 1V8
514-767-9967





