

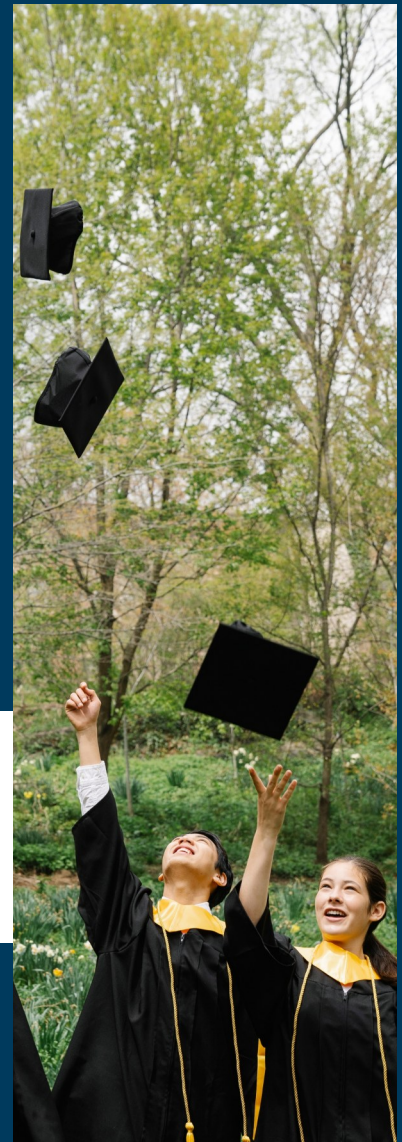


BC Scholarship Society

2025 Annual Report

WHAT WE DO

The BC Scholarship Society provides awards and scholarships to students to encourage and facilitate their pursuit of post secondary education. The Society was created in 2004 as the Irving K. Barber Scholarship Society following the establishment of a permanent endowment by the Province of British Columbia. Since its inception, the Society has granted over \$43 Million in scholarships and awards to thousands of students across the province. The Society's programs are administered by the Victoria Foundation.



"I am committed to giving back to my community, and this award encourages me to continue pursuing my goal of becoming an educator who can help strengthen and support future generations."

Brody Sanderson, 2025 Indigenous Student Award.

HOW WE DO IT

The Society provides financial awards and scholarships through five separate programs to students attending public post-secondary institutions throughout B.C. and internationally.

INDIGENOUS STUDENT AWARDS

The BC Indigenous Student Award improves access to post-secondary education for Indigenous students by reducing financial barriers. Renewable awards of \$3,000 to \$10,000 are available for Indigenous students pursuing trades training, certificates, diplomas, undergraduate and post graduate degrees.

IKE BARBER TRANSFER SCHOLARSHIPS

Ike Barber Transfer Scholarships, named in honour of educational philanthropist Irving K. Barber, are awarded to undergraduate students who have completed one or two years of study at a post-secondary institution and are transferring to another institution in B.C. to complete their studies. Scholarships are valued at \$5,000 each.

ADULT BASIC EDUCATION TRANSITION AWARDS

This award program encourages students completing Adult Basic Education Programs to pursue full-time post-secondary study and training. Awards of \$5,000 are granted to help students make this challenging transition.

INTERNATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS

The Society's international scholarship programs are for study outside of North America and are available to students enrolled at a B.C. public post-secondary institution. Scholarships of between \$2,000 and \$12,000 are awarded each year to students seeking to add an international perspective to their education

WOMEN IN TECHNOLOGY SCHOLARSHIPS

This Scholarship recognizes women excelling at the study of Engineering, Mathematics or Computer/Data Science. These scholarships are valued at \$10,000 each. At least one is reserved for a woman of Indigenous ancestry.

2025 DISTRIBUTIONS

Scholarship/Award Programs	Granted	Funds Distributed	
	2025	2025	To Date
Transfer Scholarship/ABE Transition Award*	243	1,215,000	12,043,000
International Scholarship	463	1,559,220	11,614,013
Indigenous Student Award	327	979,500	11,550,750
Indigenous Masters/Doctoral Award	52	250,000	5,187,500
Indigenous Teacher Education Award	2	10,000	2,368,500
Women in Technology Scholarship	14	140,000	950,000
Victory in Europe (Discontinued)	0	0	130,000
Total	1101	4,153,720	43,843,763

*Transition Award: 2021/22/23/24/25

WHO WE ARE

A volunteer Board of Directors provides leadership, oversight and guidance to the Society. The Board includes both members-at-large and representatives appointed by the Province of British Columbia who bring particular expertise respecting post-secondary education.

The Victoria Foundation provides administrative support for the Society and manages the delivery of its various scholarship and award programs.



"I'm committed to bringing back learnings that will benefit young people and communities I work with, enriching my professional roles and volunteer work, and expanding my ability to support meaningful change."

Nicole Pointon,
One World International
Scholarship

2025 FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

Year Ending December 31	2025	2024
REVENUE:		
Interest, dividends and realized capital gains	27,700,152	5,194,659
Unrealized capital gains (losses)	(18,125,115)	8,064,205
Contributions	150,814	511
TOTAL	9,725,851	13,259,375
EXPENSES:		
Excess (Deficiency) of revenue over expenses	826,356	808,333
Scholarships/Awards	8,899,495	12,451,042
Excess (Deficiency) of revenue over expenses	4,153,720	3,270,200
Excess (Deficiency) of revenue over expenses	4,745,775	9,180,842
Net Assets, beginning of year	84,258,850	75,078,008
Net Assets, end of year	89,004,624	84,258,850

2025 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Firas Abbasi, Victoria
Troy Barnes, Nanaimo
Nate Bello, Nanaimo
Erica Bisgrove, Sooke
Allan Coyle, Kelowna
Monica Cox, Victoria
Fiona Cubitt, Victoria
Christine Fast, Victoria
Chad Hoskins, Victoria
Ryan Kelly, Victoria
Heidi Maddess, Vernon
Brad Williams, Victoria

VICTORIA FOUNDATION STAFF

Rory Grewar, Senior Director of Special Funds
Scott Antaya, Systems Administrator
David Foley, Scholarship Administrator
Karen Ng, Senior Director of Finance
Nathan Lapointe, Director of Finance
Jonathon Dyck, Senior Director, Marketing and Communications

CONTACT US:

200-703 Broughton Street
Victoria, BC V8W 1E2
1-844-478-4645
info@
bcscholarshipsociety.ca

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Firas Abbasi



I am pleased to report that 2025 was a year of growth, progress, and long-term stewardship for the BC Scholarship Society.

In 2025, we awarded 1,101 scholarships and awards totaling more than \$4.15 million, supporting students studying throughout British Columbia and around the world. These results represent a significant increase over 2024 and bring the Society's cumulative support to nearly \$44 million since our inception.

This year was also marked by important investments in the future of our programs. We are especially grateful to the Ministry of Post-Secondary Education and Future Skills for its continued partnership and support. In 2025, the Ministry extended its support for the Women in Technology Scholarship program

through 2027. This investment reflects our shared commitment to expanding educational opportunity, promoting equity, and supporting the future workforce needs of British Columbia.

The past year also marked significant progress in implementing the Society's 2024–2027 Strategic Plan. One of our key priorities is ensuring the long-term sustainability of our scholarship programs through prudent stewardship of the endowment funds entrusted to our care. Following a comprehensive review process, the Society successfully completed the transition of its investment management mandate to BC Investment Management Corporation (BCI) by the end of 2025.

This achievement represents an important milestone in the Society's history. On behalf of the Board, I would like to express our sincere appreciation to Jarislowsky Fraser and Leith Wheeler Investment Counsel for their many years of dedicated service and stewardship. Their contributions helped build the strong financial foundation that supports our programs today.

Our partnership with BCI positions the Society for the future. Through access to a broader range of investment opportunities and increased diversification, we expect to reduce portfolio volatility and provide a more stable and predictable source of funding for scholarship recipients. Despite ongoing market volatility, the Society's net assets increased to more than \$89 million at year-end, further strengthening the financial foundation that supports our scholarship programs.

The Board also continued its work to strengthen the Society's governance and organizational capacity. Building on the strategic planning process completed in 2024, we undertook a comprehensive governance and administrative review to ensure the Society remains well-positioned to meet the evolving needs of students and continue delivering on its mission for years to come.

We are encouraged by the strong start to 2026 and remain focused on implementing the priorities established in our Strategic Plan. We will continue to strengthen relationships with government, Indigenous communities, post-secondary institutions, and partners throughout British Columbia while ensuring that our programs remain responsive to the changing needs of students.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I extend our sincere thanks to the Ministry of Post-Secondary Education and Future Skills for its continued partnership and confidence in our work. We are equally grateful to the Victoria Foundation for its longstanding administrative leadership, professionalism, and commitment to helping us deliver these important programs. I would also like to thank my fellow directors, our adjudicators, and the many individuals who contribute their time and expertise in support of students across the province.

Most importantly, we congratulate the students whose dedication, resilience, and ambition inspire our work every day. We are honored to play a small role in helping them pursue their educational goals and look forward to continuing this important work in the years ahead.