# Wealthsimple Foundation Impact Report 2024

#### Dear Friends,

2024 was a landmark year for Wealthsimple Foundation, and I'm incredibly grateful for what we've accomplished together. It was our best year yet, with a 51.7% increase in Canada Learning Bond sign-ups, over 1.5 million people reached through our Money Master Class, and deeper connections built with youth through campus tours, classroom workshops, and our Foundations Day events.

We started the year with a major victory: the federal government approved a plan to automatically grant Canada Learning Bond benefits to eligible children by 2028-2029—a huge step forward for access to post-secondary education.

In the months that followed, we focused on enhancing financial literacy. From expanding tax programs to helping families access government benefits, to launching the Money Master Class series, and touring campuses across the country with practical, engaging workshops for young people, we made financial education more impactful than we ever had before.

None of this would have been possible without our dedicated team, volunteers, our trusted partners, and the generous support of our founding partner, Wealthsimple.

As we look ahead, we're excited to build on this momentum. Together, we'll continue making personal finance simple, engaging, and accessible for young people.

With gratitude,



Leen, Board Chair, Wealthsimple Foundation







Education can be a life-changer, but it's not equally accessible to all.

Wealthsimple Foundation breaks down the barriers to post-secondary education and expands opportunities for youth across Canada.

## 2024 in numbers:

- → 362K people educated
- → \$3.6M in CLB benefits
- → \$53K in scholarships

## 1. Improving Financial Literacy

Students need more than post-secondary education to achieve financial freedom.

Through in-person workshops, seminars, and events we meet students where they're at to provide simple, accessible and engaging financial education, so they feel better equipped to begin planning for the future.

From launching the Money Master Class, to providing tax filing support and bringing in-classroom learning to four provinces, we connected with young people wherever they are, online or in person, to create dynamic spaces for interactive finance and career learning

### 2024 Impact

- → 362,599 people educated through 90 workshops and the Money Master Class
- 87% of survey respondents rated our program engagement level above 4 out of 5

### **Total Impact to Date**

370,080 people reached through 277 workshops and online resources











"It was truly a pleasure to have these sessions held in person this time, and the students were absolutely captivated by the "wealth" of information and the accessible way it was presented.

My students expressed how much they appreciated the practical, real-world insights and the engaging delivery.

This type of hands-on learning is invaluable, and I know it will have a lasting impact on their financial literacy and decision-making."

Dave Dickinson

Grade 11 Teacher, Rockridge Secondary School

Vancouver, BC

## **Programming Highlights**

Money Master Class: Connecting with young Canadians online through relatable, real-life lessons

### Impact:

- → 1.5M views and counting
- 9 campus tours across
   Canada
- → 200+ attendees at launch
- → \$6.5K towards bursaries from Shirley Co. merch

"I usually have a short attention span, but the videos actually kept me engaged."







Tax Sessions: Empowering participants with the training and resources to file their taxes independently and claim the CLB

### Impact:

- → 313 attendees from 11 community organizations (+663% yoy)
- → 366 beneficiaries (+95% yoy), including 59 young adults (+228% yoy) received CLB

"Their focus on education and action makes such a difference for students to gain the skills they need to file for themselves in the future."

Terry Bennett Mac Money Centre









**Foundations Day:** Interactive workshops, panels, and networking for students to gain essential financial skills to take control of their futures

### Impact:

- → 3 Foundations Days
- → 87 student participants
- → 76 hours from 37 volunteers in support

"As someone deeply committed to learning about financial literacy, I was truly appreciative of this learning experience."



"It is really important, I would say, to have essential knowledge, the right mindset, and skills to manage your own finances. These are things that schools often don't teach us, and we realize their importance only after we get to college or even later in life...

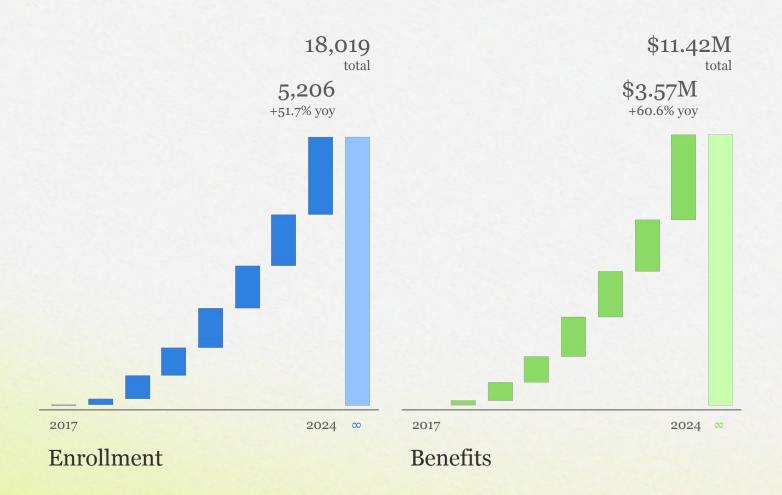
That's why it's so important to learn how to manage your finances early on— or at least attend events like this to gain more insight and start taking control of your financial life."

# 2. Growing CLB and Education Savings

We help modest-income students and families apply for the Canada Learning Bond (CLB), a \$500-2,000 grant invested in their Registered Education Savings Plan (RESP) that goes towards future education.

This was a big year of CLB, with 51.7% more people enrolled in the benefit in 2024.

To date, we've helped 18,019 children and youth access \$11.42M in CLB benefits.



## 3. Distributing Scholarships and Bursaries

We work with colleges, universities, and grassroots organizations to help students with financial need pursue post-secondary education.

This year, with the help of our partners and donors, including the Yves & Cynthia Bled Foundation, we've committed to providing 17 students with \$53K in bursaries.

To date, we've supported 86 students with \$187K+ in bursaries.

This year, in partnership with Wealthsimple, we promoted Canada's Simplest Scholarship - awarding \$15,000 total to three post-secondary students across Canada.

"Receiving this scholarship means a lot to me...

For my community, I hope it's a reminder that opportunities are out there if you're willing to try."

Zakarya Ali Recipient of Canada's Simplest Scholarship



# A huge thank you to our donors and the people who make our work possible

Systemic changes are needed to make post-secondary education more inclusive, accessible, and affordable. We can't make all those changes immediately, but with the support of our donors, volunteers and community partners, we can take actionable and informed steps towards this goal.

**\$787,900 in donations** from Wealthsimple, the Yves and Cynthia Bled Foundation, and individual donors.

### 78 volunteers spent more than 350 hours volunteering in 2024:

Abeer Khan
Abigail Udvari
Adam Saso
Alicia vogan
Amanda Burke
Andy Hoy
Bryanna Sacco

Carly McCready Chantelle Petrozzi

Celine Mathews-Negash

Clint Lacroix
Courtney Craig
Darshan Bhavsar
Daniel Tersigni
Diana Huynh
Dorra Bouchiha
Dylan Tannyan
Evan Metelski
Fariba Al-Hassan

Fazi Kiani

Fizza Chaudhry

Guilherme Vasconcelos

Guy Tsror Hailey Martin Hannah Markovits Jack Fabregas Jackie Izzard Jacklyn Vieira Jay Young Jenny Phan Joann Lai

John Peters Joseph Kindarji

Josh Hanson Julianna Cardozo Julianne Jorda Kaleem Arjune

Keegan Mongru Kim McGoldrick KJ Sitsabesan

Kriti Sodhi Ky Capstick

Larochelle Poblete Lena Hirschfield Lorne Sussman Lucas Yang Malvin Lo

Manuel Agudelo Manvendra Singh Maryam Jawansheer

Meeral Qureshi Moiz Divan Monica Anton

Natasha Anzik Nathaniel Bates

Narges Afzal

Nicholas Offer Noah Mifsud-Lattari

Oluwadamilola Bamiqboye

Peter Martin Prince Narciso Rachel Lam Rita Choi Robert Wan

Scheherazade Hasan

Scott Simpson

Sahil Gill

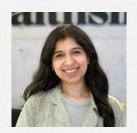
Sofana Sathiyaseelan

Spencer Hazzard
Sudarsan Ramesh
Tahaniya Merchant
Thierry Ambraisse
Tosin Bamigboye
Tyler Hamilton
Victoria Hale
Wasif Hyder
Yusen Wang

Zarmeen Khan

#### 2024 Volunteers of the Year

A special thank you to our top volunteers this year for all of their time, energy and effort to breaking down the barriers to education for everyone living in Canada.



### Community Award: Narges Afzal

Narges has become an invaluable part of the Wealthsimple Foundation volunteer community. Her commitment to connecting with communities, from facilitating workshops to supporting RESP sign-ups and acting in the Money Master Class, has been instrumental in advancing our mission.



### Behind the Scenes Award: Tyler Hamilton

Tyler has been a key supporter of the Foundation's lifecycle marketing efforts for two years, helping hundreds of families and young adults access RESPs and the Canada Learning Bond with email campaigns during tax season, back to school and RESP contribution deadlines.



#### Foundation's Choice Award: Prince Narciso

The Foundations Choice Award recognizes a volunteer who has made a lasting impression with their impact. Prince, has been a constant source of support—showing up when needed, tackling tough tasks, and inspiring others to get involved. We're proud to recognize his dedication and contributions to our work.

## **Our Board**



**Leen Li**Chair
Wealthsimple Foundation



**Luke Connell**Co-Founder and CEO,
CarbonRun



**Aliza Lakhani**Dean and CEO,
Northeastern University
Toronto



**Michael Katchen** Co-Founder and CEO, Wealthsimple



**Sue Gillespie**Former President and
CEO, Pathways to
Education



Caroline G. Gayle
Managing Director,
Technology Services
Lead (CA), Accenture



**Christina Bock**Corporate Secretary

## Our Team



**Emily Naddaf**Director, Strategy and
Community Growth



**Gina Skocaj**Associate, Community
Engagement



**Zhané Stimpson**Associate, Youth
Engagement



Maryam Jawansheer RESP Specialist

## We make a difference together

We're lucky to work with incredible community partners.

Together, we support financial literacy, education savings, and bursary funding all across Canada.

Association of Black Canadians
BoostHer!

Brock University Student Justice Centre

CASFAA

Covenant House

Durham Region

Ernestine's Women's Shelter

Employment and Social Development Canada (ESDC)

Federation of Black Canadians

**FUNCTION** 

G3neration Chosen

George Brown College

Grant Me

Launch Okanagan

Laurier University

Marteine

McMaster University

North York Women's Shelter

PennyDrops

RiseinStem

Rockridge Secondary School

SaySomaali

Scholarships Canada

Schoolfinder Group

Sherbourne Health

Target Alpha

The Laidlaw Foundation

The Leacock Foundation

The Mina Project

The Neighborhood Group (TNG)

The Yves & Cynthia Bled Foundation

Toronto Community Housing

Toronto Metropolitan University

University of Toronto

Wealthsimple

YAACE

YWCA Toronto

YWCA Vancouver

Youthful Cities





## Join our community!

Keep up with our programming, read inspiring stories, and get accessible financial education from Wealthsimple Foundation.

Follow Us: TikTok

<u>LinkedIn</u>

<u>Instagram</u>

wealthsimplefoundation.com

Watch the Money Master Class here 🔆

Questions? info@wealthsimplefoundation.com

