

# WESTLAND FOUNDATION ANNUAL REPORT 2024-25



**Westland Foundation**

*"Empowering Inner-Winnipeg Youth Through Education"*



## BACK TOGETHER, MOVING FORWARD

This year, Westland Foundation brought back its annual Fundraising Breakfast—our first one since the pandemic. Honestly, it just felt good to be in the same room again. To catch up, to listen, and to talk about the real difference the Westland Foundation Education Fund is making for young people in inner-Winnipeg.

It's always one of the most meaningful events we put on, and this year was no exception. Hearing directly from recent scholarship recipients put everything into perspective. Big thanks to Westland Scholars, Cynthia Tran and Rafael Manangan for hosting, and to Francesca Carino and Lorielyn Bautista for sharing their stories so openly—reminding us all why this work matters in the first place.

Guest speaker Gene Bowers, Winnipeg's Chief of Police, spoke candidly about the realities of policing, reflecting on his early days as a constable in inner-Winnipeg. There's something powerful in hearing how closely his experiences—and the work of the Winnipeg Police Service—connect with Westland's mission to build a stronger, more supported community.

The breakfast raised \$11,000 for the Westland Foundation Education Fund. That doesn't happen on its own. It's because of the people who keep showing up—supporters, donors, volunteers, friends—year after year.

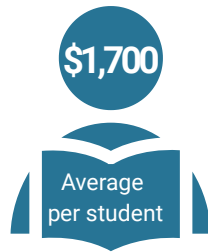
So, thank you. You're helping make something that lasts in the inner-Winnipeg community.

**JOHN M. PRYSTANSKI**

*Westland Foundation Founder & President*

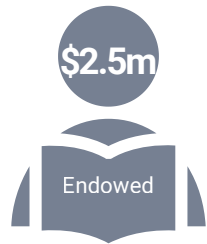
# EMPOWERING THROUGH EDUCATION

## School year 2024-25



The Westland Scholarships, funded through over \$2.5 million raised for the Westland Foundation Education Fund, support students at RRC Polytech, the University of Manitoba, and the University of Winnipeg.

## Since 1993



Awarded for strong academic achievement, they aim to cover tuition and help students complete their undergraduate education.

Poverty is often the underlining cause of challenges faced by inner-Winnipeg youth. Inner-Winnipeg poverty is highest among racialized groups, recent immigrants, and Indigenous Peoples. As a result, on an average, the graduation rate for inner-Winnipeg youth is 15% lower than in the rest of Winnipeg.

Poverty makes receiving a post-secondary education challenging for many young people in our city. Westland scholarships are working to change the future.

## Inner-Winnipeg Data



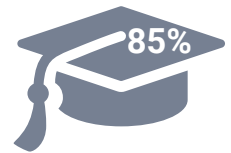
Inner-Winnipeg median household income



Winnipeg median household income



Inner-Winnipeg Graduation Rate



Winnipeg Graduation Rate



\*% of neighbourhood population



## MEET WESTLAND SCHOLAR FRANCESCA CARINO

Upon graduating from Sisler High School in 2024, Francesca set her sights on pursuing a degree in computer science at the University of Manitoba.

Inspired by friends who are Westland Scholars, Francesca applied for the Westland Foundation scholarship—and was thrilled to be selected.

"My Westland scholarship will help cover my tuition as well as additional costs associated with my degree," Francesca explains. "This includes textbooks and other essential materials."

After completing her degree, Francesca hopes to work at a technology company and dreams of one day launching her own start-up. In addition, she is committed to giving back to the inner-Winnipeg community through volunteer work.

Whatever path Francesca takes, she is proud to hold the title of Westland Scholar. "I am deeply grateful for this recognition and support, which will make a meaningful difference as I continue my educational journey," she says.

### FRANCESCA CARINO

*2024 Sisler High School graduate  
Currently studying computer science at the  
University of Manitoba.*

# FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Category	2024	2023	Change (\$)
Total Revenue	\$253,696	\$54,099	\$199,597
Total Expenses	\$19,701	\$14,778	\$4,923
Excess of Revenue (Surplus)	\$233,995	\$39,321	\$194,674
Net Assets (End of Year)	\$317,586	\$83,591	\$233,995
Cash (End of Year)	\$76,440	\$85,859	(\$9419)
Total Assets	\$320,086	\$86,091	\$233,995
Total Liabilities	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$0

## OUR MISSION

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To empower inner-Winnipeg youth through education.

## OUR VISION

To award every inner-Winnipeg student with a full post-secondary scholarship.

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The Westland Foundation office is located in Treaty 1 territory, the traditional territories of the Anishinaabeg, Anishininewuk, Dakota, Dene, Ininiwak, Inuit, Métis Nation, and Nehethowuk, and the homeland of the Red River Métis Nation.

We acknowledge that Winnipeg's water is sourced from Shoal Lake 40 First Nation.

We respect and acknowledge the Treaties and the inherent rights of Indigenous peoples throughout these territories. We dedicate ourselves to move forward with Indigenous communities in a spirit of reconciliation and collaboration to make Manitoba an inclusive and accessible place for everyone who lives here.



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