

# A Space Reclaimed. A Future Rebuilt.

Every day across British Columbia, thousands of tradespeople rise before the sun. They lace up their boots, haul their gear, and get to work - pouring concrete, running wires, welding steel, lifting beams. They are the builders, fixers, makers, and doers who keep our province running. Their work is essential. Their presence, often taken for granted.

But beneath the surface of this hard work lies another truth - one that doesn't make headlines or appear in blueprints: many tradespeople are silently struggling.

They carry more than just tools. They carry pain, pressure, trauma, addiction, and isolation - often with nowhere to turn. Mental health and substance use challenges are disproportionately high in the trades, and yet the support systems available often don't understand the industry, its culture, or its people.

That's why we are building The FORGE.

We've purchased what was once a notorious biker clubhouse in Langford and are transforming it into something entirely different - a safe place for healing, connection, and recovery.

This is restorative justice in action, taking a place once marked by pain and turning it into a place for hope. The FORGE will be built by tradespeople, for tradespeople. It will be a place where individuals walk in with burdens and walk out with tools for healing.

This is not a clinic. This is not a system. This is community.



# At The FORGE, guided by people with lived experience, you'll find:

A peer-to-peer network and mentorship from those who have walked the same path

- Rapid access to treatment and early intervention
- Licensed counselling and therapy
- · Aftercare, monitoring, and recovery coaching
- Employment counselling and training opportunities
- Group therapy, 12-step and non-12-step meetings
- A social club for practicing the art of living again no judgment, just real connection

This is about building bridges, not only between care programs, but between people and possibilities. Like welding steel into a solid structure, The FORGE will unite people, purpose, and support.





## Why This Matters Now.

The numbers are staggering:

- In British Columbia, 30-50% of men who died of opioid-related causes were trades workers.\*
- Across Canada, the suicide rate in construction is more than three times the national average, with 83% of tradespeople reporting mental health struggles.\*\*

These are not just statistics. These are fathers, mothers, apprentices, journeypersons, coworkers, and friends. Each life lost is a story that could have been met with a hand up, instead of a closed door.

<sup>\*</sup>https://campusmentalhealth.ca/toolkits/skilled-trades/substance-related-harms/

<sup>\*\*</sup>https://dontchangemuch.ca/mental-health/peer-support-construction-mental-health/



### Join Us.

We have set a goal to raise \$500,000 to complete the recovery of the building and open our doors. Every dollar builds us closer to welcoming tradespeople into a place built by and for them.

Let's build something that lasts.



# Help Us Build It.

This isn't charity, it's community.
It's not a handout, it's a hand up.
This is what it means to take care of our own.



# **Corporate Sponsorship Tiers.**

#### **FOUNDATION LEVEL**

Laying the foundation for future recovery.

\$100,000

(1 available)



- ✓ Name & logo on website
- ✓ XXL plaque on wall with logo
- ✓ Name & logo featured on social media
- ✓ Premium swag package
- ✓ Large sign on perimeter fence during renovation
- ✓ FORGE program presentation to your company
- ✓ Free access to space (when available)
- ✓ Exclusive naming opportunity for a training room

#### FRAMEWORK LEVEL

Supporting the structure that will change lives.

\$50,000

(2 available)



- ✓ Name & logo on website
- ✓ XL plaque on wall with logo
- ✓ Name & logo featured on social media
- √ Swag package
- ✓ Medium sign on perimeter fence during renovation
- ✓ FORGE program presentation to your company

#### STRUCTURAL LEVEL

Building stability for longterm recovery.

\$25,000

(4 available)



- ✓ Name & logo on website
- ✓ Large plaque on wall with logo
- ✓ Name & logo featured on social media
- √ Swag package
- ✓ FORGE program presentation to your company

#### **TOOLS OF CHANGE**

Equipping The FORGE with essential support.

\$10,000

(6 available)



- √ Name & logo on website
- ✓ Medium plaque on wall with logo
- ✓ Name & logo featured on social media
- √ Swag package

### **APPRENTICE LEVEL**

Beginning the journey. Backing the build.

\$5,000

(20 available)



- ✓ Name on website
- ✓ Small plaque on wall

### **CREW LEVEL**

Joining the team. Building together.

\$1,000

(40 available)



✓ Name on website



To donate, visit entertheforge.ca/how-to-donate or scan the QR code.

Note: Corporate sponsorships are not eligible for tax receipts.

the FORGE An initiative of CFBC

#### For more information contact:

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### **Donate Now**

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The Construction Foundation is a registered Canadian charitable society. Charitable Registration: **BN 83026 6300** 

