Impact Report 2026

IGNITE Dream

Surrey Fire Fighters Charitable Society

The "Ignite a Dream" program is designed to help remove barriers and ignite the dreams of students in Surrey by providing educational opportunities that would not exist without our support. These awards are designed to change lives and inspire the recipients. Our hope is that they become valued and contributing citizens who are agents of social change since education is the cornerstone of a healthy, vibrant community. One person has the power to create change, regardless of his or her life circumstances. The awards give both the means and the opportunity to do more — to give back and to achieve beyond expectations.

110+ Ignite Bursaries awarded

12 Ignite a Dream Events

$399,500 invested

Visit www.surreyfirefighters/ignite to learn more

SINCE INCEPTION

Since its inception in 2014, the Ignite a Dream program has empowered students to pursue their educational goals by removing financial barriers through meaningful bursaries.

A LEGACY OF SUPPORT

From 2014 to 2016, the Surrey Fire Fighters Charitable Society (SFFCS) awarded **15** bursaries totaling **$55,500**, supporting students in our community as part of our commitment to education.

KPU PARTNERSHIP

In 2017, SFFCS partnered with Kwantlen Polytechnic University (KPU) to continue awarding Ignite a Dream bursaries to deserving students.

- 2017-2022: $20,000 awarded annually
- 2023 onward: Our commitment increased to $55,000 annually

HONOURING COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP

Since 2017, a $2,500 bursary has been awarded annually in honour of Dianne Watts. The bursary has been given to an inspiring female student who shows leadership and vision for our Surrey neighbourhood and community, and who demonstrated extraordinary volunteerism and a strong level of social consciousness as evident through your humanitarian efforts.

Since 2023, a second $2,500 bursary has been awarded annually in honour of Linda Hepner. The bursaries recipients demonstrated a commitment to the City of Surrey through their volunteerism, leadership and activism.

In 2025, we were proud to establish The Brenda Locke Legacy Award, a new $2,500 annual bursary that will support Surrey students for years to come.

IGNITE A DREAM IMPACT REPORT 2026

PART OF LARGER COMMITMENT TO YOUTH

The Ignite a Dream program is part of SFFCS's ongoing bursary initiative, which also includes our Community Bursaries, Goodwill Basketball (GWBB) bursaries, and Slamfest bursaries.

COMMUNITY

Since 2009, the Surrey Fire Fighters' Charitable Society are pleased to announce that we have awarded **241** bursaries worth **$156,250**. It is our way of encouraging community spirit and recognizing young leaders of our community. The awards are based on the student's contributions to the community and may include service to their school, sports teams, church groups, community centres, hospitals, or service clubs.

SLAM FEST

Since 2004, we have held an annual wrestling tournament with participants from over 12 Surrey Schools. Wrestling combines all the physical and mental elements of sport while maintaining a high level of sportsmanship and camaraderie amongst the competitors. We have proudly awarded **37** bursaries since the beginning worth **$29,750**.

GOODWILL BASKETBALL

For over 15 years, the Surrey Fighters' have awarded bursaries to students that participate in the annual Goodwill Basketball Tournament to those who have outstanding volunteer service in their community. We are excited to announce that we have awarded **132** bursaries worth **$114,150.**

SURREY FIRE SERVICE YOUTH ACADEMY

In partnership with the Surrey Fire Service and the Surrey School District, we are proud to be part of the first-ever Youth Academy. The SFFCS awarded four $2,500 scholarships to students with a passion for pursuing a career in the fire service. Community involvement, volunteerism, school involvement, and leadership are key factors in selecting the recipients. A total of $10,000 will be awarded to support the next generation of firefighters yearly.

OUR IMPACT

💡 480+ bursaries

💰 $679,550 invested

(over half a million dollars)

Thanks to the unwavering support of our community, SFFCS has been helping ignite dreams since 2009 — one student at a time.

That's the impact of the SFFCS bursary programs since 2009 — and we're just getting started.