



Annual Report 2024

The Star of the North Retreat Centre

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Lucie Leduc

2024 Year in Review

As part of our commitment and fidelity to our Star vision, mission and values we look back on 2024, to reflect on The Star's service to live the Gospel in community and to plan for the year ahead.

HOSTED GROUPS:

Our outreach of hospitality to the larger Christian community and other wellness groups seeking sacred space at The Star has served **4,024 people** with **293 events** in 2024.

Among the groups served were the Provincial CWL, Knights of Columbus, Engaged Encounter, Franciscans, St. Paul Diocese, Deaneries and others among our own Catholic community of the Archdiocese of Edmonton.

We extended our welcome to The Anglican community for their Cursillos and meetings, to various other Christian denominations, namely, Baptist, United, Alliance and Pentecostal groups, and to the ecumenical spiritual direction formation program "The Studion".

As part of our commitment to Truth and Reconciliation Calls to action, we have welcomed Indigenous peoples and groups who seek trauma training or healing sessions through Dr. Jane Simington's "Taking Flight International" workshops, and through "Heart Spirit, Healing and Wellness" workshops with Adele Arcand and Bearwoman Associates.

We also host a variety of 12 Step groups, crafting groups, and too many other groups to list in full, as seen above by the number of events held here in 2024.

It is also our ardent desire that greater attention be given to directing lay people who come to make what are known as novenas (i.e. retreats). ...Considering the good dispositions they bring when God's grace calls them to this shrine/retreat house, what benefits could we not obtain for these people, what means of perseverance could we not provide for them by means of well-directed spiritual exercises! St. Eugene de Mazenod

SPONSORED STAR PROGRAMS OF RETREAT, SPIRITUAL FORMATION, AND WORKSHOPS

As a Star team we work enthusiastically and diligently to provide opportunities for the faithful to grow and be formed spiritually for our times. This past year we **served 692 people with 40 events**, including events that were part of our two-year program "Aurora Living: Formation Through Word and Creation", which were open to the public. Aurora also had a committed group of people who completed their formation in June 2024.

We facilitated

- Our annual Inner-City Men's and Women's Wellness Retreats (completely sponsored retreats for men and women on the margins who could not otherwise benefit from a retreat experience).

- winter and spring sessions of Bridges for Contemplative Living series with Anita Allsopp,
- Christian week of Unity Day,
- Spring and Fall Bereavement Series with Wanda Lehman,
- French Retreat with Sr. Catherine Grasswill and Caroline Maillet-Rao,
- Inclusion Journey workshop with Maria Drueco,
- an evening session of Lenten reflection on Rembrandt's paintings,
- movie night with Pope Francis "The Letter", ecology and climate sustainability,
- an eco-spirituality series with Clint Porritt, "How to Grow: Meeting God in the Garden"
- a series of three evenings "Pathways to Reconciliation" with Indigenous guest speakers

and many more events as part of the ongoing Aurora Living program. Finally, we are implementing synodal practices of dialogue, and contemplative listening in many of our programs.

PERSONAL RETREATS

In 2024, **207 people** came for their own private, personal retreats, taking advantage of solitude, silence and prayer for their own spiritual growth.

May The Star staff, Board of Directors and Oblates among us, be so blessed as to continue to provide space for retreat, renewal, in keeping with our vision, mission and values, for the benefit of the larger Catholic and Ecumenical Christian community, for years to come!

Vision

Awaken to Spirit, Transform the World

Mission

- To offer a sacred space of hospitality and healing
- Providing support and challenge for prophetic ministry
- Awaken people to their dignity, beauty and gifts
- Engage Catholic and Christian community in active evangelization, and the transformation of creation
- Empower people to grow in the service of others and the love of Creator.

Values

- Creating an environment for spiritual growth
- Wholeness, and wellbeing of the person
- Silence, reflection, and contemplation
- active listening and contemplative engagement
- Authentic witness to the Gospel of Jesus Christ
- diversity of human experiences and relationships
- faith traditions and cultures of others
- the gift, dignity and integrity of creation

Facility Enhancement Projects 2024

The Star of the North prepared and completed a Facility Enhancement Budget that included the following projects:

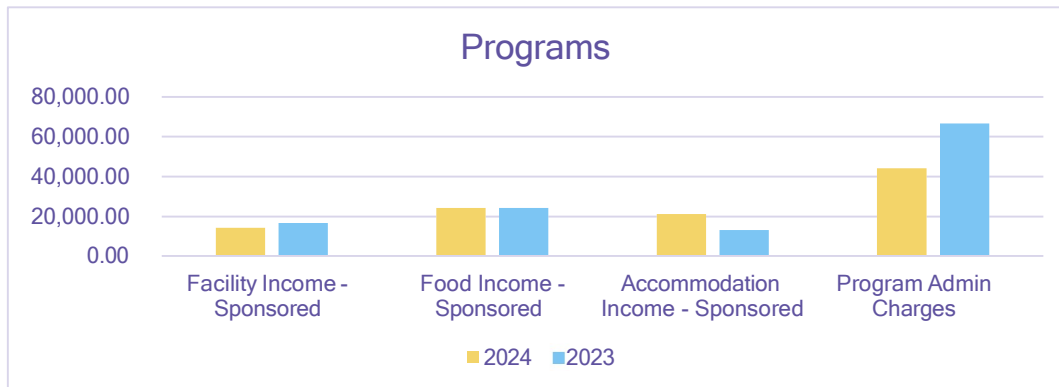
	Estimates	Actuals
Window repairs and replacements	\$ 1,045.29	\$1,045.29
Boiler replacement	\$ 35,724.00	\$36,674.00
Pipe prep for boiler		\$3,980.00
Yard Pathway	\$ 12,410.00	\$14,190.00
15 room carpet replacements south	\$ 15,332.73	12,375.70
Painting Peach	\$ 11,587.50	\$12,797.50



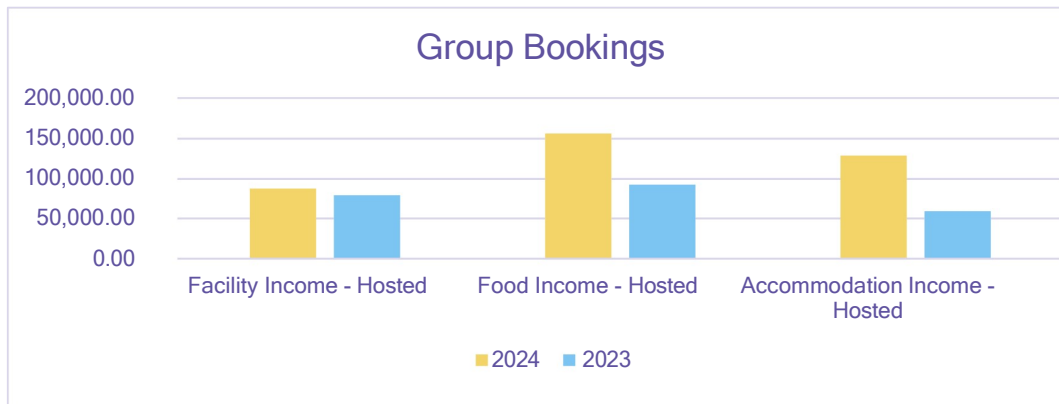
Top photos: Peach wing, bedrooms, hallways and stairwells painted a soft sage, with new carpeting throughout. Bottom Photos: New stone pathways and new boiler.

2024 FINANCIAL SUMMARY

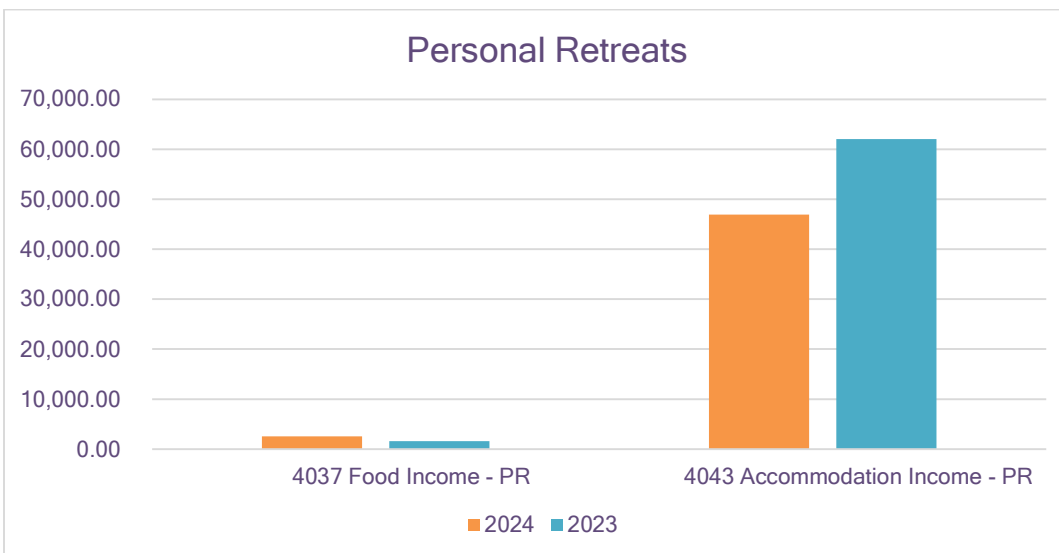
2024 Revenue Summary:



2024: \$103,653 2023: \$120,790



2024: \$373,193 2023: \$233,887



2024: \$49,520 2023: \$63,640



2024: Camino: \$10,755 ,Donations: \$51,814 2023: Camino: \$35,845, Donations: \$84,688

2024 Revenue Breakdown:

4020 Facility Income - Hosted	88,086.65
4025 Facility Income - Sponsored	<u>14,117.50</u>
FACILITY REVENUE	\$102,204.15
4033 Food Income - Hosted	156,286.34
4035 Food Income - Sponsored	24,170.51
4037 Food Income - PR	<u>2,610.00</u>
FOOD INCOME	\$183,066.85
4041 Accommodation Income - Hosted	128,820.00
4042 Accommodation Income - Sponsored	21,144.00
4043 Accommodation Income - PR	<u>46,909.50</u>
ACCOMODATION INCOME	\$196,873.50
4060 Program Admin Charges	<u>44,220.66</u>
FEE REVENUE	\$526,365.16
4101 Receipted (General Fund)	41,437.01
4102 In-Kind Donations	4,060.94
4103 No Receipt (General Fund)	<u>6,316.50</u>
DONATIONS	\$51,814.45
4202 Counseling (Spiritual Direction)	670.00
4203 Client Costs	2,137.50
4205 Honorariums	650.00
4206 Bank Interest Earned	825.28
4208 UMC - Interest Income	8,654.67
4209 Camino & Other Fundraisers	10,755.00
4210 Book Sales Sylvain	<u>4,255.00</u>
OTHER REVENUE	\$27,947.45

2024 Expense Summary:



2024 Exp. (Not Inc. Depreciation): \$675,332 2023 Exp. (Not Inc. Depreciation): \$575,060

2024 Expense Breakdown:

5402 Office Wages & Salaries	220,167.16
5410 Computer Related	5,912.65
5420 Photocopier	5,277.97
5430 Telephones/Internet	-4,922.89
5435 Postage	954.51
5440 Office and License	2,010.28
5456 Accounting (Year End Review)	5,400.00
5471 Insurance	18,706.52
5472 Subscriptions	104.21
ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES	\$253,610.45
5481 Program & Educational Supplies	4,465.57
5482 Program Honorariums	15,705.71
5483 Program Facilitator Travel	6,245.98
5484 Advertising - Programs	5,275.03
5485 Star Garden Project	2,963.91
PROGRAM EXPENSE	\$34,656.22
5510 Furnishings	1,079.70
5530 Building Repair & Maintenance	15,248.27
5531 Building Supplies	6,056.85

5532 Equipment P&R	2,702.22
5554 Contract Labour (Maintenance Manager)	<u>15,801.25</u>
BUILDING EXPENSE	\$40,888.29
5601 Yardwork	72.31
5602 Supplies	449.66
5630 Snow Removal	<u>1,455.00</u>
LANDSCAPING EXPENSES	\$1,976.97
5665 Natural Gas	16,637.81
5670 Power	20,876.89
5680 Water	2,704.72
5685 Waste Removal	<u>1,976.77</u>
UTILITY EXPENSE	\$42,196.13
5701 Kitchen Salaries (FT)	33,892.61
5702 Kitchen Salaries (PT)	59,816.67
5703 Contract Labour (Kitchen)	8,318.50
5710 Food	46,373.58
5715 Facility Coffee & Beverages	5,285.78
5730 Kitchen Supplies	9,729.04
5742 Kitchen Equipment P&R	<u>7,401.79</u>
KITCHEN EXPENSES	\$170,817.97
5761 Housekeeping Wages (PT)	42,362.72
5762 Supplies (Cleaning/Paper)	7,665.70
5763 Laundry	13,886.16
5764 Linens	<u>4,380.71</u>
HOUSEKEEPING EXPENSE	\$68,295.35
5808 Advertising - Recruitment	576.30
5809 Advertising - Booking	2,178.57
5811 Hospitality	<u>201.18</u>
PROMOTION EXPENSE	\$2,956.05
5880 Employee CPP & EI	25,660.67
5881 WCB Expenses	2,961.60
5890 RRSP Matching (Sunlife)	7,200.00
5893 Benefits (CRASI)	586.88
5895 Benefits (MYHSA)	<u>4,609.16</u>
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	\$41,018.31
5955 GST Expense	6,338.07
5985 Chapel Expense and Honorariums	3,238.31
5992 Bank charges and Interest	9,239.95
5993 Bad Debt	<u>100.00</u>
OTHER EXPENSES	\$18,916.33

ACCOUNTANTS STATEMENTS:

STAR OF THE NORTH RETREAT CENTRE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

December 31

2024 2023

ASSETS

Current

Cash	\$ 103,265	\$ 103,490
Investments - Note 1	207,171	169,777
Accounts receivable	7,660	13,025
Goods and services tax receivable	6,338	6,618
Prepaid expenses	<u>17,607</u>	<u>10,997</u>
	342,041	303,907

Property and Equipment - Note 2

229,433 236,740

Intangible Assets - Note 3

17,850 5,950\$ 589,324 \$ 546,597

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

LIABILITIES

Current

Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 25,958	\$ 21,036
Customer prepaid deposits	30,616	14,340
Source deductions payable	11,184	5,941
Designated donations	16,428	26,539
Unearned revenues	<u>0</u>	<u>33,195</u>
	84,186	101,051

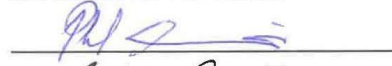
DEFERRED CAPITAL CONTRIBUTIONS - Note 4

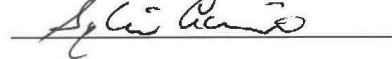
184,051 152,852

NET ASSETS

321,087 292,694\$ 589,324 \$ 546,597

APPROVED BY THE BOARD

 Director

 Director

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

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STAR OF THE NORTH RETREAT CENTRE STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS	Year Ended December 31		
	Budget	Actual	Actual
	2024	2024	
Revenue: Note 9			
Fees	\$ 359,524	\$ 343,298	\$ 297,749
Donations - Note 7	62,283	228,529	126,873
Food services	190,015	183,067	118,795
Other income	<u>3,519</u>	<u>12,937</u>	<u>13,457</u>
	<u>615,341</u>	<u>767,831</u>	<u>556,874</u>
Expenses:			
Payroll and employee benefits - Note 8	412,260	405,576	314,838
Kitchen supplies	64,000	68,790	42,291
Repairs and maintenance	56,500	45,829	37,994
Utilities	39,812	42,196	47,471
Fundraising	0	41,885	0
Housekeeping supplies	18,500	25,933	12,536
Amortization - Note 4	0	22,222	26,640
Office	23,050	20,148	29,138
Honorariums	21,000	18,944	27,517
Insurance	18,896	18,707	18,187
Bank charges	9,000	9,239	7,932
Advertising	41,700	8,231	7,670
Non-recoverable sales tax	4,800	6,338	4,348
Professional fees	<u>28,800</u>	<u>5,400</u>	<u>25,135</u>
	<u>738,318</u>	<u>739,438</u>	<u>601,697</u>
Deficiency of Revenue Over Expenses	<u>\$ (122,977)</u>	<u>\$ 28,393</u>	<u>\$ (44,823)</u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

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