

We envision a world without barriers where every person, regardless of ability, can participate meaningfully and belong.

Spaces we work

 **Physical**

 **Digital**

 **Socio-cultural**

What sets us apart

 **We bridge research and real life**

 **We design what's needed not just what's available**

 **We work across sectors**

People with disabilities in Canada continue to face significant inequities, including lower employment rates, limited access to education, and disproportionate health disparities.

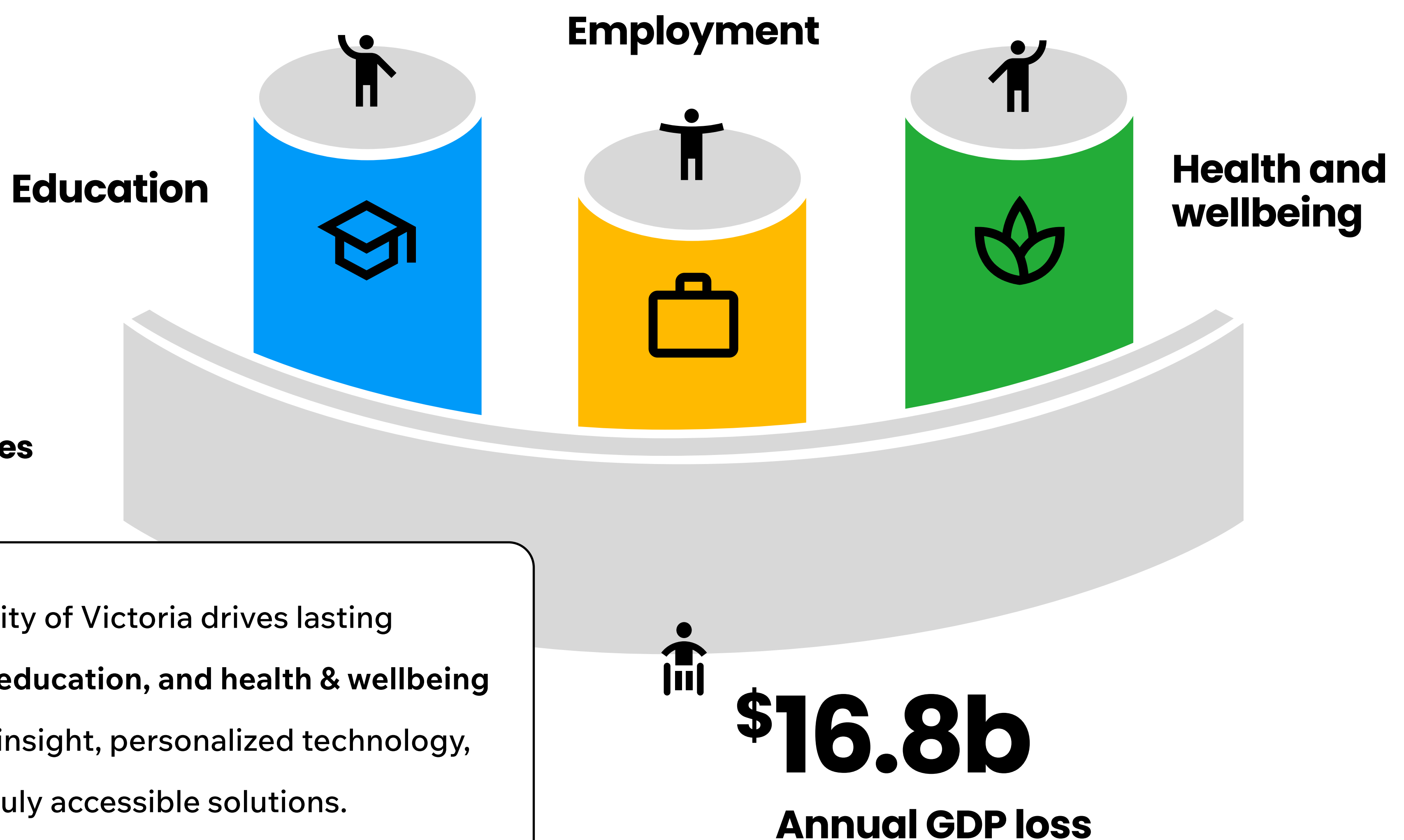
Cultural shift

 **Connection**

 **Mental health**

 **Inclusive attitudes**

 **Accessible practices**



CanAssist at the University of Victoria drives lasting change in employment, education, and health & wellbeing by blending community insight, personalized technology, and research to create truly accessible solutions.

Impact goals

5k 
Careers started

5k 
Students supported

5k 
Programs complete

15k 
Individuals reached

Together, we can create lasting change in employment, education, and health. Join us in building a future where all people can meaningfully participate and belong. Let's break barriers and build belonging! To learn more or get involved, contact carolinacortes@uvic.ca.

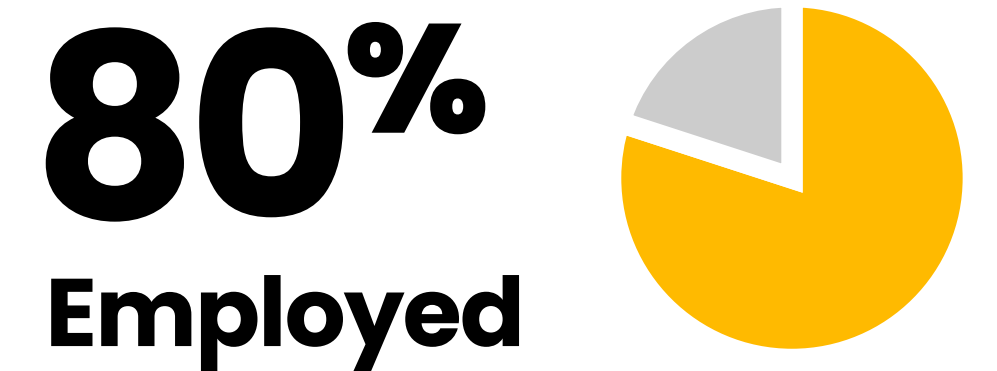
Employment is key to independence, mental wellbeing, and feeling included in the community.

This gap does not reflect a lack of talent, but rather, persistent systemic barriers that limit opportunity.

Adults with disabilities

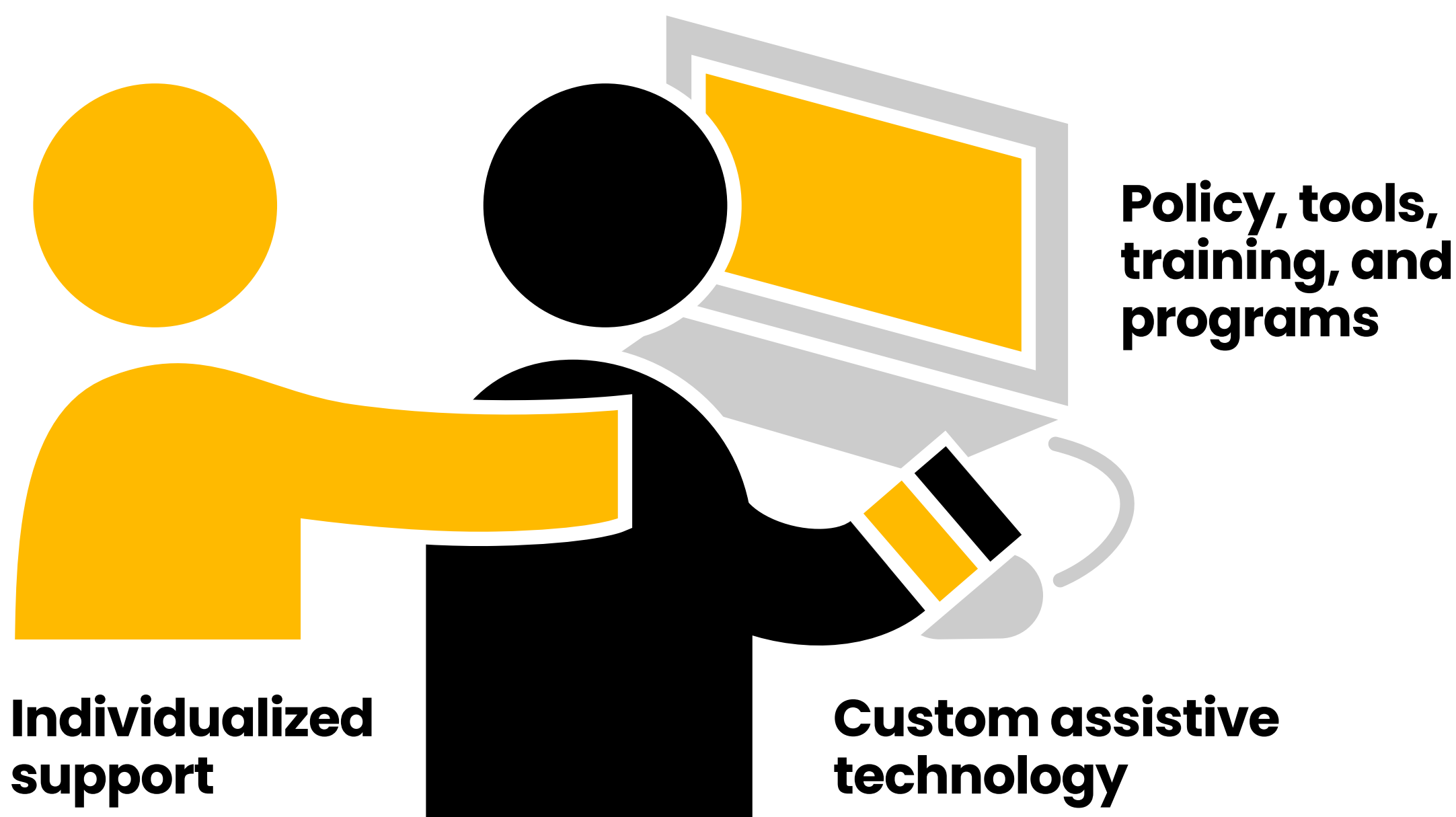


Adults without disabilities



CanAssist's employment pillar is addressing this inequity head-on.

Our work

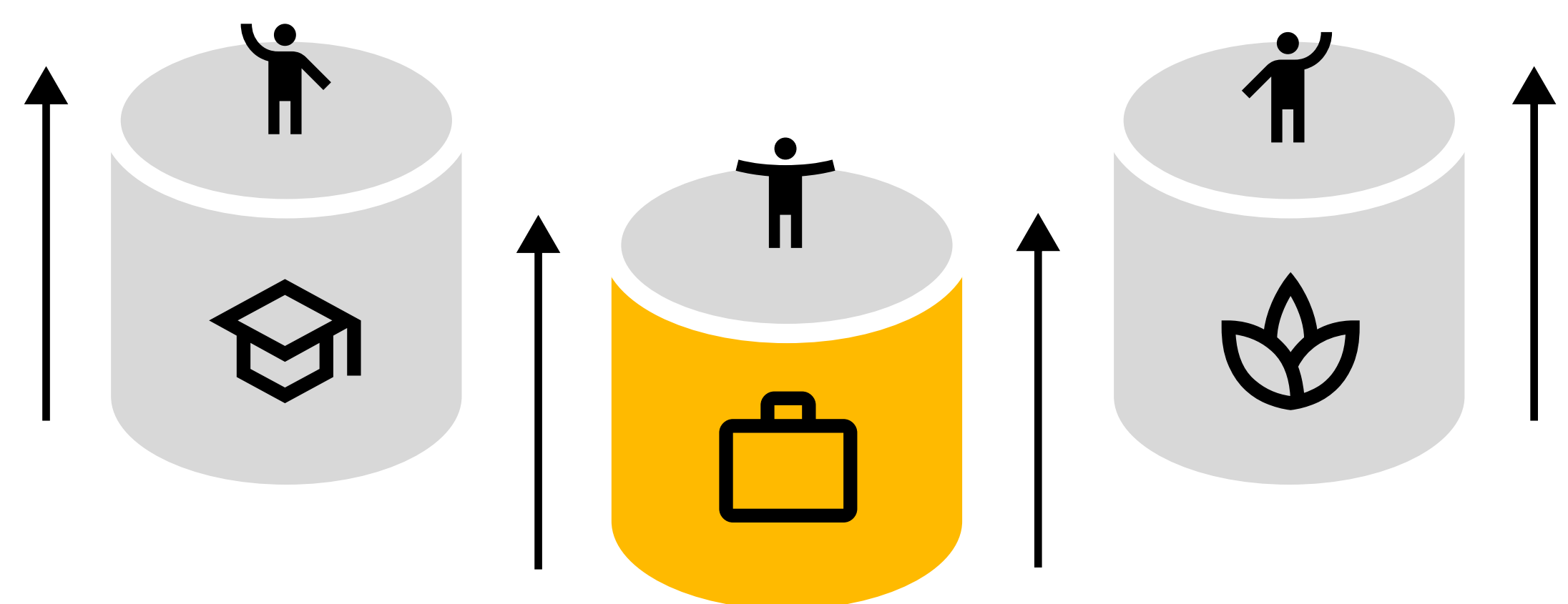


Our approach

-  Comprehensive
-  Collaborative
-  Person-centric
-  Guided by systems thinking

With philanthropic investment, we can scale and deepen our impact.

We advance inclusive employment by supporting employers, equipping service providers and educators, and partnering with government to strengthen policies and resources for people with disabilities.



Meaningful employment secured thus far

630
Individuals



75%
Success



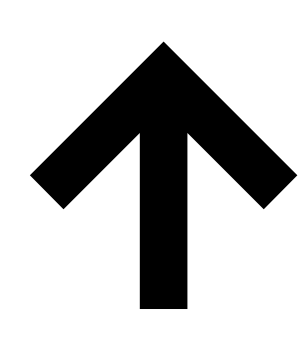
Impact goals

5k
Youth



Supported
by 2027

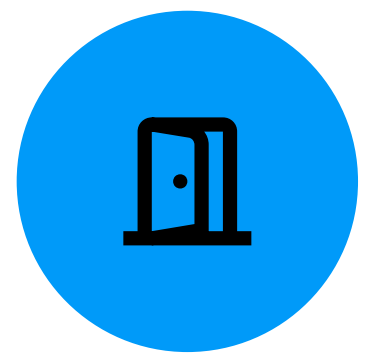
Economic inclusion



Let's create a future where everyone can contribute, belong, and thrive!
To learn more or get involved, contact carolinacortes@uvic.ca.

Education is one of society's most powerful tools for transformation.

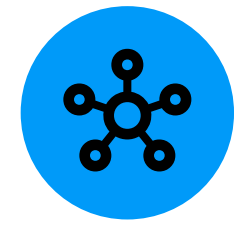
Systemic barriers faced by students with disabilities

**Structural****Attitudinal****Digital**

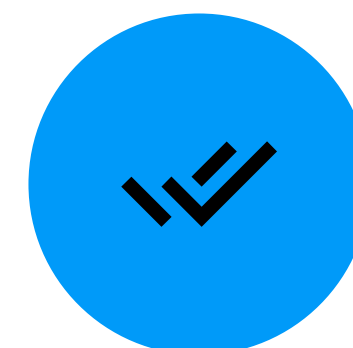
These barriers do not arise from individual limitations, but from outdated systems that have yet to reflect the full spectrum of human diversity.

CanAssist is at the forefront of addressing this challenge through social innovation.

Our focus

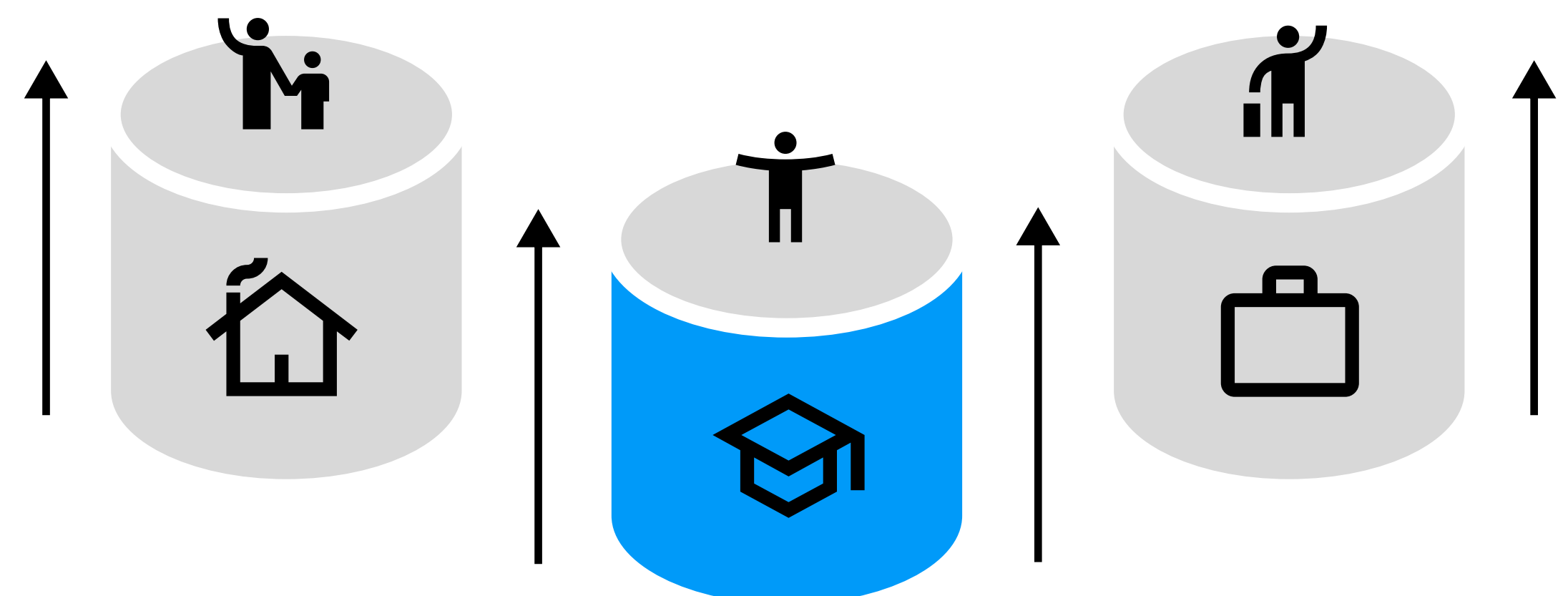
**Learners****Systems****Institutions****Communities**

Course reach

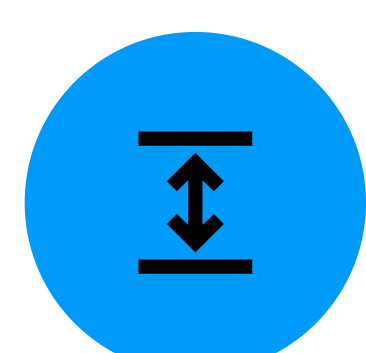
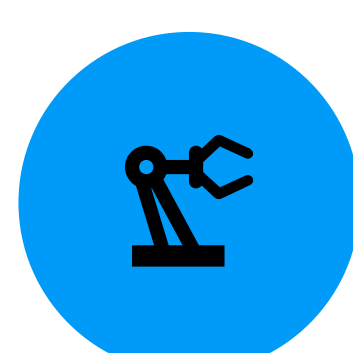
8k**Educators****40%****Completion***Sector-leading rate*

These courses are preparing a generation of educators to embed inclusion from the very start. We have also created targeted curricula that empower youth with disabilities to understand their rights, strengthen self-advocacy, and pursue meaningful employment.

Beyond the classroom, we engage educators, families, employers, and communities to elevate public understanding of disability and accessibility, sparking culture change and building social infrastructure for inclusion.



Current and future impact

**Deliver scalable programs****Develop inclusive tech****Shift public mindsets**

Together, we can build a future where inclusive education is the standard. To learn more or get involved, contact carolinacortes@uvic.ca.

Health and wellbeing come from taking part in daily life—through creativity, purpose, play, and meaningful connections.

Barriers to participation and engagement faced by people with disabilities



Daily routines



Social Life



Recreation

These barriers are not due to lack of interest or ability, but because systems, environments, and tools were not designed with accessibility needs in mind.

We take a holistic approach to wellbeing, strengthening mental health by supporting everyday activities and participation in daily life.

Our work delivers practical, personalized, and scalable solutions that support people with disabilities to live on their own terms.

Activities made more accessible and inclusive



Cooking



Music



Sports



Gaming



Cycling



Crafts

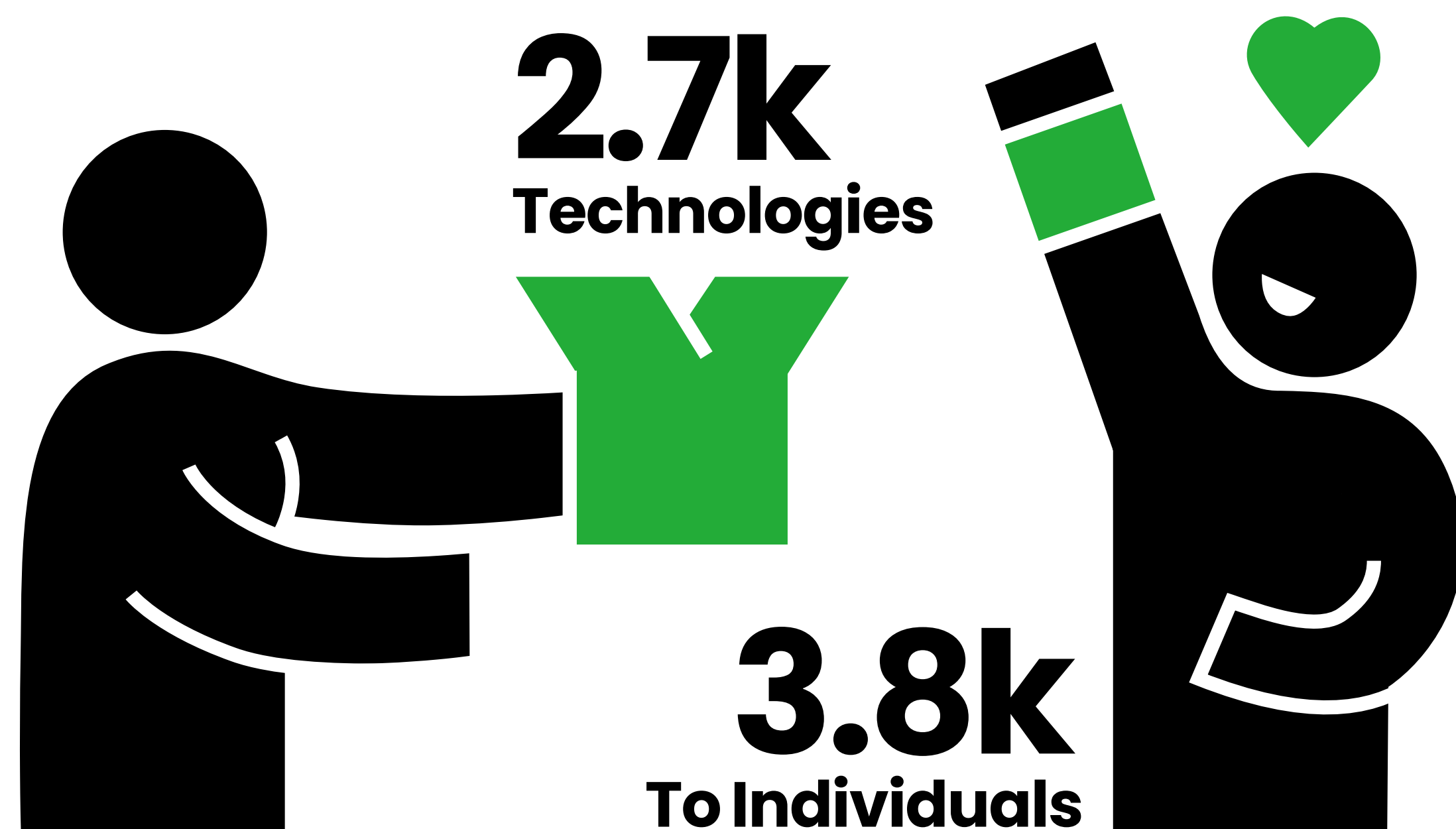


Chores



Shopping

What we have delivered



20k Downloads



Applications like CanPlan

Customized innovations unlocking personal potential in many aspects of life:



Daily living

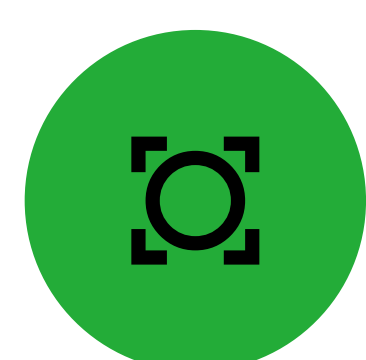


Creativity



Leisure

Our focus



Expand wellbeing initiatives



Mental health supports



Accelerate innovation

Let's build a future where all people can take part in every aspect of life. To learn more or get involved, contact carolinacortes@uvic.ca.