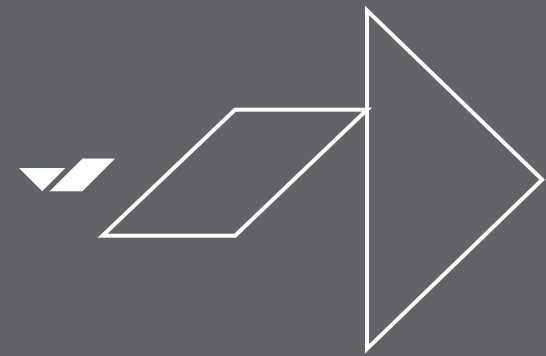




ANNUAL REPORT



The Moving Pieces of Pluralism



Dear Friends,

As we reflect on 2018, one word keeps coming up: transition.

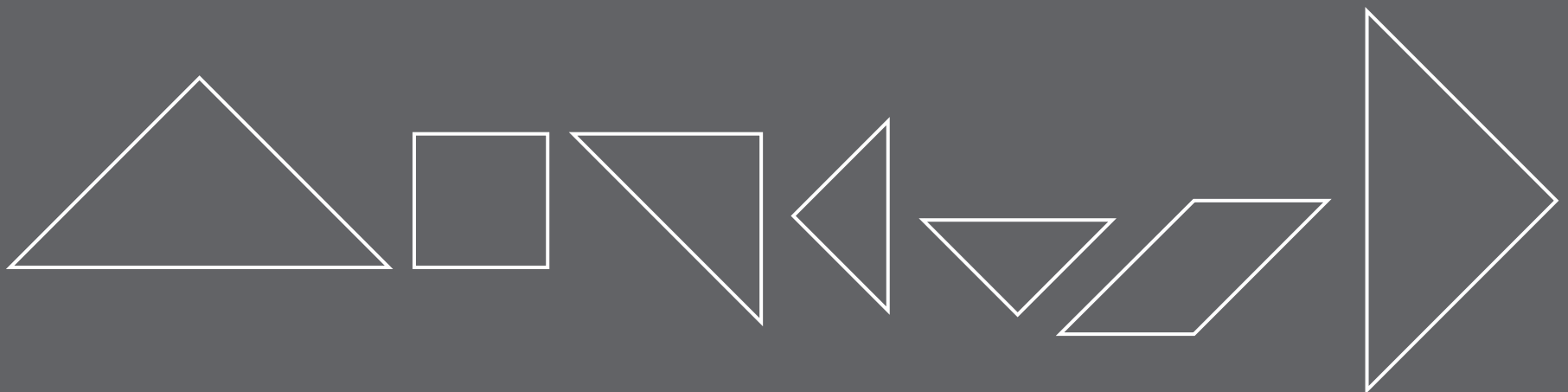
At the Board, Peter Lyman stepped down as Chair after two years in that position. Peter, a founding Inspirit Board member, will continue as a director to bring his vast experience, commitment, and wit to our governance work. Thank you for your leadership, Peter.

When Barbara took over as Chair in June 2018, a new board structure emerged. Barbara was joined by two co-chairs, Ginger Gosnell-Myers from Vancouver and Salima Ebrahim from Edmonton.

During the summer, Board and staff also created a joint Equity Committee, and the Board hired a consultant to help us identify and navigate through our commitment to equity. We wanted very much to be grounded in that work, but also to explore how our equity journey would support our mandate around pluralism.

In 2018, we also said goodbye and thank you to founding CEO Andrea Nemtin as she moved on to another position. The Board launched a national search, and at the end of August 2018, new CEO Sadia Zaman officially began her tenure as the Foundation's second CEO. Sadia spent the first few months at Inspirit learning about the philanthropic environment as well as our internal culture and work.

In the fall the Board also approved the selection of Addenda Capital to be the new fixed income manager for Inspirit's portfolio. This further cemented our commitment to a 100% impact portfolio. We are the only foundation in Canada to make that commitment publicly.



In December 2018, Inspirit paused all active granting programs to take a deep breath and reflect on the first three years of our strategic plan. It was becoming clear that our work had become very broad, and our talented team was working well beyond capacity.

We could not continue to work that way and, as 2019 began, focus became our priority.

We continue to examine how we do our work at Inspirit with our mission of funding media and arts for social change, supporting young change leaders, and investing our assets to align with our mission.

In this annual report we are proud to highlight some of our work over the past year, and are excited about where we are going. We hope that you will continue to join us on our journey as we head into 2019.



Barbara Hall
Board Chair



Sadia Zaman
CEO

A white handwritten signature of Barbara Hall on a dark background.

A white handwritten signature of Sadia Zaman on a dark background.



[Learn more about us](#)



[See our 2018 audited financial statements](#)



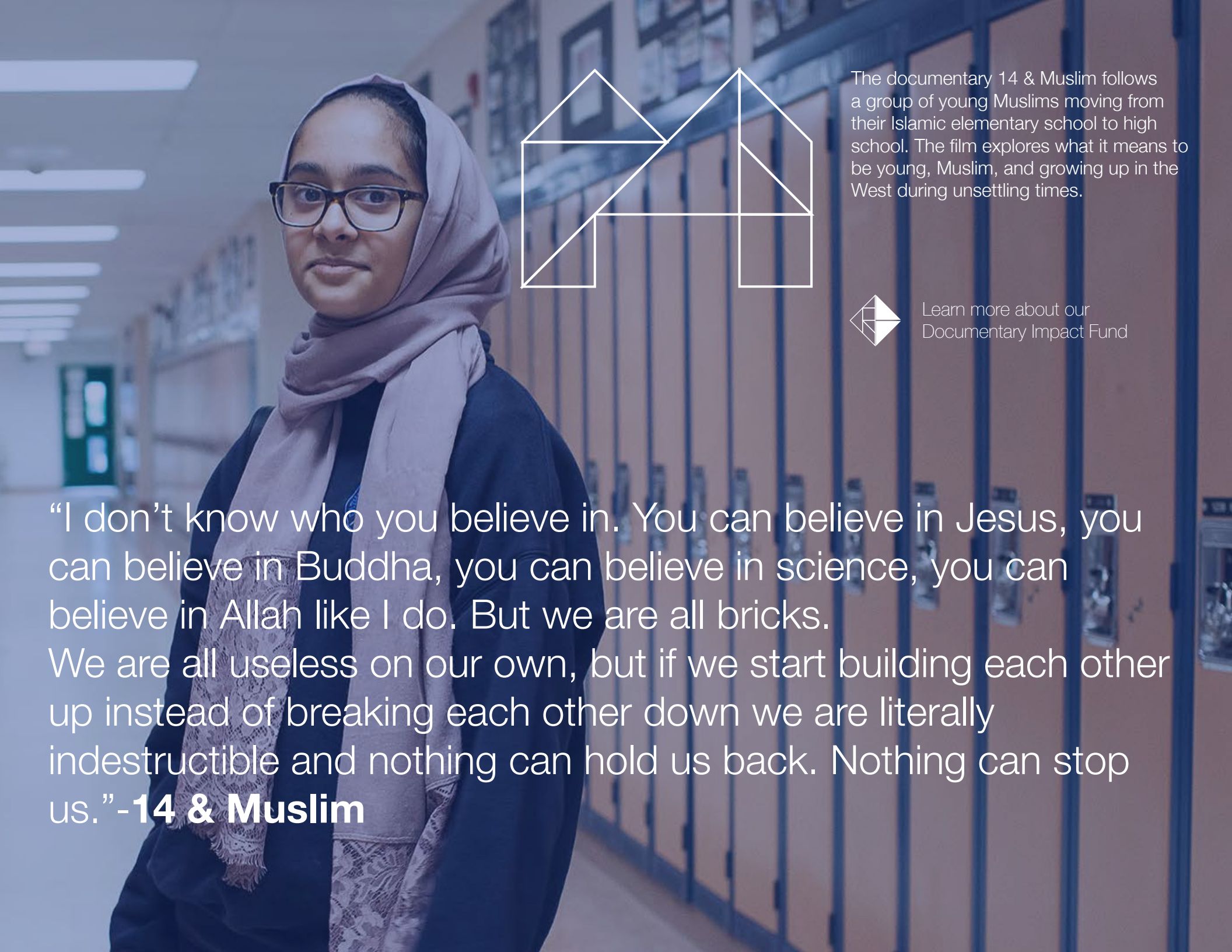
The Sawa Theatre project creates space for young Muslim newcomers to engage in theatre as a platform for challenging harmful misconceptions, and an outlet for personal growth. The project guides participants in the co-creation and execution of a theatrical production and culminates in a final performance at the Gas Station Arts Centre in Winnipeg.



Learn more about our ChangeUp grantees



“There are two significant changes we notice...The first is the tremendous personal growth we see in the participants themselves.... Another thing we notice, mostly following our performance, is the many people who approach us and tell us how their perception of our participants, Muslims, and newcomers had entirely changed.” -**Sawa Theatre**



The documentary *14 & Muslim* follows a group of young Muslims moving from their Islamic elementary school to high school. The film explores what it means to be young, Muslim, and growing up in the West during unsettling times.



Learn more about our
Documentary Impact Fund

“I don’t know who you believe in. You can believe in Jesus, you can believe in Buddha, you can believe in science, you can believe in Allah like I do. But we are all bricks. We are all useless on our own, but if we start building each other up instead of breaking each other down we are literally indestructible and nothing can hold us back. Nothing can stop us.” -**14 & Muslim**

“This year’s Urban Hide Tanning Camp was incredibly successful and inspiring. We can’t thank you enough for your support with our project.

Mahsi Cho,

Thank you,

Merci Beaucoup”.

-Dene Nahjo team



[Learn more about our Core grantees](#)

Dene Nahjo is a Dene innovation collective based out of Somba K’e, Denendeh, (Yellowknife, NWT) that focuses on fostering Indigenous leadership skills and values through cultural resurgence. The collective’s mission is to advance social and environmental justice for northern peoples; to promote and foster Indigenous leadership; to live, learn and celebrate their cultures on the land; and to strengthen relationships in the North. Dene Nahjo works to address systemic issues such as racism, violence towards Indigenous women, and ongoing colonization. The collective provides programming for Indigenous peoples to connect to land, language, culture, and community, as well as educational opportunities for Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples to learn about a variety of topics from critical Indigenous perspectives.

“Raven is creating the pathways into Indigenous communities, building critical relationships and growing a large base of entrepreneurs and enterprises that are investment ready.”

-Raven Indigenous Capital Partners



FULLY
COMMITTED.

Raven is an Indigenous-led fund that invests in Indigenous social enterprises and community-owned enterprises. Inspirit believe funds such as this provide a pathway to a more equitable and prosperous future for Indigenous peoples in Canada.



Learn about our 100%
impact portfolio