

EXECUTIVE MESSAGE

What an incredible year we have had at The Community Foundation. As we do each year, we started our fiscal year refocusing on our mission – to serve as a trustee of gifts, support charitable organizations, and inspire community leadership throughout Greater Saint John. Each year since our inception in 1976, we have seen our assets grow – this year reaching just over \$15 million.

In fulfilling our mandate, we awarded grants to a number of organizations throughout Greater Saint John with our Community Service Awards, Smart & Caring Grants, and in honour of Canada's 150th Anniversary – we leveraged funds from the Community Foundations of Canada to award \$135,000 to nine youth-led projects in our area.

The grants from the past year bring our total support of local charities and students to over \$8.4 million since we began as an organization. We are quite proud of that total.

In addition to granting, we established two new funds in 2017; The Sweet Caroline Fund and The Learning Exchange Fund. We touch on these new funds in more detail later in the report, but we are pleased to welcome these new funds into our community.

It would be remiss of us to not take this opportunity to also extend our thanks and appreciation to four retiring board members: Cynthia Benson, R. Gary Faloon, Q.C., Rev. Dr. Elizabeth Stevenson, and J. Michael Murphy. They have all given of their time and expertise for a number of years and for that we are very thankful.

Looking back on 2016-2017, we are proud of the work we have done in the community and we are energized to continue to do more of the same in 2017-2018.

Kelly Evans

Kelly Evans
Executive Director

John Travis
Chairperson



NEW FUNDS

The Sweet Caroline Fund was established by the Sweet Caroline Foundation in loving memory of Caroline Lorette, who passed away tragically at the age of 14. The Sweet Caroline Foundation is a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting awareness of allergies and anaphylaxis.

Annual earnings from the Sweet Caroline Fund shall be used in support of the ongoing operations of the Sweet Caroline Foundation and to provide bursaries and grants for local students, awarded in Caroline's name.

The Learning Exchange Fund directly supports the work and operations of The Learning Exchange – a registered charity and diverse community resource dedicated to adult support, individualized learning, skill development, and access to employment.



Above: Caroline Lorette

OUR YEAR IN GRANTING

Each year we grant funds through a regular schedule; the Community Service Awards, Smart & Caring Grants, and our annual Anniversary Grant. In addition to these grants, in 2016-2017 we gave away Youth Vital Signs Grants as part of our celebration of Canada's 150th birthday. Here is a brief overview of the grants awarded last year:

Community Service Awards – Individual

Bill MacMackin, a well-known business leader in Greater Saint John, is equally known for his philanthropic and volunteer work. Mr. MacMackin was nominated for this award by Discover Saint John, as a way to recognize all he does for Greater Saint John. Mr. MacMackin chose the Greater Saint John Field House to receive the \$5,000 donation from The Community Foundation.

Community Service Awards – Group

The Saint John Food Purchasing Club, nominated by Mary LeSage, is a volunteer-based organization that operates similarly to a food co-operative, where funds are pooled together to purchase fresh fruit and vegetables at affordable prices. The Club designated the Crescent Valley Resource Centre as the recipient, who used the \$5,000 donation to support community gardens in Saint John's priority neighbourhoods.

Smart & Caring Grants

Each June, The Community Foundation distributes its Smart & Caring grants to successful applicants from Greater Saint John. The applications are assessed based on their alignment with The Foundation's mission and vision, as well as an identified community need.

For 2016-2017, The Foundation received \$800,000 in funding requests and awarded just over \$350,000 to various community groups with an eye to providing the most community benefit.

Youth Vital Signs Grants

Youth Vital Signs is a local community-based research initiative led by The Community Foundation. It is centred around what we refer to as "youth-voice", meaning it's a pulse check on what youth in our community think and feel about what's working in Greater Saint John and what should be changed or improved.

In alignment with the unique opportunity to grant money for Canada's 150th birthday, we awarded these grants to empower youth to help create change within their communities. The Community Foundation awarded \$135,000 in grants to nine youth-led projects covering everything from a greenhouse project, a food security program for high school students, and a digital news outlet.

Anniversary Grant

Handed out each year in October, we awarded the \$40,000 Anniversary Grant to Outflow Ministry to support their social enterprise "Catapult."



FINANCIALS 2016 - 2017

	2016-2017	2015-2016
Assets	\$15,235,967	\$ 14,141,346
Donations to Foundation	\$ 473,268	\$ 738,981
Expenditures		
Operating expenses	\$ 271,382	\$ 316,342
Grants awarded to local charities	\$ 625,459	\$ 559,097
Investment management fees	\$ 72,477	\$ 67,708
Total expenditures	\$ 969,318	\$ 943,147
Administration expenses	1.8%	2.2%
Total number of funds	76	74
Fund balance (at year end)	\$15,219,202	\$14,124,386

We have met the disbursement quota as set by the Canada Revenue Agency. A complete set of audited financial statements are available on our website or at the Foundation office.

It is with special thanks to our donors that we supported 53 community initiatives and 45 students this past fiscal year.



For more information on how you can make a difference in your community contact:

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THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

ANNUAL REPORT 2016-2017

