

Investing in Education



Investing in education yields important returns. These investments - whether in programming for post-secondary institutions, community education organizations, or in individual students - foster potential for individuals and help ensure the success of our province. Thanks to the generosity of donors, many of whom have made gifts to support education, The Winnipeg Foundation has been able to support a wide variety of learning opportunities and through skills development and educational programming.

Provincial Incentive

The Province of Manitoba has committed \$100,000 annually for five years to augment new gifts to funds at The Winnipeg Foundation that support education or housing bursaries. New gifts to certain existing endowments, such as the Literacy for Life Fund, are also eligible for the funding match. The Province's commitment will bolster the efforts of individual donors, resulting in greater resources to meet the needs of our students and education institutions.

Your Opportunity

If your family has ever considered establishing a named endowment fund and has either a general interest in education or a specific wish to assist students, this generous offer from the Province creates a meaningful incentive to act now. The additional support will mean that your fund will have increased community impact for students today, tomorrow and forever.



Students at William Norrie Centre.

Donors from all walks of life have supported education opportunities through The Winnipeg Foundation, with the creation of field of interest funds that target education, and bursary funds that support local students.

Sample Funds

Polly and Derek Riley Bursary Fund

This fund, established in 2006, supports housing costs for students attending William Norrie Centre. The Centre provides targeted post-secondary opportunities in education and social work to mature students from surrounding inner-city neighbourhoods. Students attending the Centre often face a variety of educational barriers. Awards are based on students' financial needs and geographic proximity to the school.

Gladys Best Fund

Gladys Best taught in Winnipeg schools for more than 35 years. Her father, also an educator, was one of Manitoba's first school inspectors. To honour this family history, and support a cause that was dear, Ms. Best established a field of interest fund at The Winnipeg Foundation in 1988. The fund has, for example, supported family literacy programs, a science exhibit for kids and education opportunities for the Aboriginal community.



This program is supported by the Province of Manitoba.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is a “fund” at The Winnipeg Foundation?

The Foundation holds hundreds of endowments that have been created since 1921. Each fund has its own balance sheet but all gifts of contributed capital are invested in a common consolidated pool. Each fund gets its share of the annual investment return and each fund receives a spending allocation for the year based on its average market value.

What is a housing bursary?

Students pursuing a post secondary education often face financial needs beyond books and tuition. They approach the student aid office in search of help with their living costs. A housing bursary is a way to provide support in these circumstances. It may also be defined by the interest of the donor – for example, to apply to students in the School of Music.

What is an education field of interest fund?

Organizations that provide educational opportunities may apply to The Foundation for a grant to support their work. This reaches beyond a university or college to include community agencies such as Taking Charge, Career Trek and Urban Circle Training Centre. The annual spending allocation generated by an educational field of interest fund is used for this purpose. The fund may also be defined by the interest of the donor – for example, to support internships.

Do these funds require a minimum gift?

Yes and the amount is \$7,500, which may be donated over a planned period of up to five years.

What is the administrative charge?

All funds at the Foundation pay 0.5% of market value as an administrative recovery charge. For example, on a \$10,000 fund, this amounts to \$50 annually. This covers investment management as well as Foundation overhead costs.

Creating Your Family Fund

The Winnipeg Foundation works with donors from all walks of life and accepts gifts of any size. The Foundation offers flexibility and support to help donors set and attain their philanthropic goals.

For more information about this donor opportunity, please call Leslie Weir, Director of Family Philanthropy, or Cathy Auld, Director of Donor Relations, at 944-9474.

More Sample Funds

Beatrice and Walter Noyes Memorial Fund

This field of interest fund, established through an estate gift in 1996, has supported a variety of education initiatives. Over the last three years, grants from this fund have been used to: develop a training program at William Norrie Centre, create specific curriculum enhancements for schools, boost an arts education program and support a literacy organization.

Literacy for Life Fund

Established in 2003 by Literacy Partners of Manitoba, Winnipeg Public Library and The Winnipeg Foundation, this fund provides grants to support family literacy programs across the province. This fund was grown through \$1 million matching program by the National Literacy Secretariat. To date, more than 130 grants totalling \$350,000 have been made.

