RAINBOW COMMUNITY GARDEN HELPS NEWCOMERS GROW ROOTS.
READ MORE ON PAGE 12.

Aya Al Obeid (left) and Mariam Almustafa in the Rainbow Community Garden site at the University of Manitoba.
Elsewhere in this magazine there is a very good description of a recent symposium The Winnipeg Foundation hosted for leaders from Canadian community foundations. It was a three-day event where colleagues could reflect on human rights issues that are core to our community-building work. You can read the article on page 50.

Describing the agenda of what topics are discussed is different than the reality of actually participating. The stories shared were sometimes very personal. The speakers were more candid than might be the case in a larger public forum.

From the enthusiastic feedback we have already received, I know everyone has their own highlight. It was my first visit to a Mosque during prayers. The setting put all of us in a mindset to listen and better understand the realities of Islamophobia. I think it is natural to fear what you don’t understand. And certainly, the misunderstanding has been promoted by the entertainment industry and perhaps less intentionally by the news media. I won’t soon forget the lessons of that afternoon, and I know the experience will shape my future thinking.

Questions related to human rights have always been important to The Winnipeg Foundation. Our vision is ‘a Winnipeg where community life flourishes for all,’ and the last two words of that simple statement capture the essence of our mandate. The largest grant in our history ($6 million) went to the Canadian Museum for Human Rights. In looking at our grant-making priorities today, reconciliation between Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities is a prominent priority. The Foundation has also provided significant support for refugees and asylum seekers. We take serious interest in gender equity, the rights of the LGBTQIA community and the growing importance of the environment as a human right. Human rights cannot be segmented into individual elements because everything connects to everything else.

Winnipeg has defined itself as a City of Human Rights. While this leadership symposium was one small step, it does represent the ongoing challenge of finding the time and the means to grow our knowledge and commitment towards making the vision a reality.

“HUMAN RIGHTS CANNOT BE SEGMENTED INTO INDIVIDUAL ELEMENTS BECAUSE EVERYTHING CONNECTS TO EVERYTHING ELSE.”

– Rick Frost, Winnipeg Foundation CEO
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– Dr. Linda Hamilton, Winnipeg Foundation donor

“Because celebrating diversity and promoting cultural understanding creates a foundation for mutual respect and appreciation for our differences.”

– Folklorama volunteers
  Deb Hirsch (Greek Pavilion),
  Nehal Dhadral (India Pavilion),
  and Julian Giubega (Romanian Pavilion)

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The Winnipeg Foundation is **For Good. Forever.**

We help people give back to our shared community by connecting generous donors with Causes they care about **For Good.** We are an endowment-based public foundation, so gifts are pooled and invested and the annual earnings are granted back to the community **Forever.**

We strive to be a catalyst for strengthening community well-being, now and for future generations, by promoting philanthropy, creating partnerships and supporting diverse charitable organizations. Formed in 1921, we are proud to be the first community foundation in Canada.

We are committed to working with everyone in our community toward a shared goal of truth and reconciliation. A copy of the Philanthropic Community’s Declaration of Action was signed in 2015 by The Foundation’s then Board Chair and its Chief Executive Officer, and helps guide our strategic direction.

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**Working Together** is published three times per year by The Winnipeg Foundation. In our ongoing efforts to connect with our many communities, we are always looking for ways to improve this publication. If you have comments, please email them to Stacy at ssmith@wpfgdn.org.

If you do not wish to receive this publication, please contact us.

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The Foundation recognizes Winnipeg is on Treaty 1 territory, and on the homeland of the Métis Nation.

On the cover: Birkha Dahal, Amber Dahal and Sara Dahal in Rainbow Community Garden’s University of Manitoba location.
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Rainbow Community Garden provide more than healthy, affordable food
“We hope it gets ingrained in our children, to always take charity and helping into consideration. It’s going to improve their lives, it will improve other people’s lives, and it will just be part of growing up.”

– Julie and Andrew Ross, Winnipeg Foundation donors –

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FROM OUR BOARD CHAIR

WIDE-REACHING GRANTS

The Winnipeg Foundation supports all kinds of charitable activity in our community – that’s why you might sometimes hear us referred to as a 360-degree grant-maker.

Our goal with this publication is to bring you stories from each of the Causes you can support through The Foundation – but in each issue of Working Together, we focus a little extra attention on one Cause; this time, it’s Arts, Culture and Heritage.

In this issue, you’ll read stories about how youth are seeing their own ideas depicted in murals, thanks to Wall to Wall Mural Fest’s Mentorship Program (page 22); how a game using Red Rose Tea figurines is helping build a scholarship in support of expressive arts and art therapy education (page 32); and how a couple’s legacy gift will honor the magic and joy of lives well lived (page 28).

We also wanted to give some special attention to the importance of healthy food. We heard from the community that our Nourishing Potential grants needed to be separate from our Community Grants program, so we recently reintroduced it as a stand-alone granting stream (page 18). Nourishing Potential provides support for food and nutrition education for young people attending after school and drop-in programs. The Foundation also supports access to healthy food in schools by granting to the Child Nutrition Council. You can discover the impactful work being done in one local school and how it’s helping young people focus on their studies on page 16.

Eating together – and growing food together – builds community. Read more about how the Rainbow Community Garden is helping newcomers find friendship and live healthier lives on the facing page.

As you read this magazine, you’ll see that many of the stories have multiple Cause icons at the top of a page. The reality is, so much of The Foundation’s work crosses multiple Causes – which is why being a 360 degree grant-maker is so important.

All of our grants are only possible because of the incredible donors who choose to support the community through The Foundation. You will see BeCause statements throughout this and other issues of our magazine. These statements reflect the passion and interests that inspire donors’ support of The Winnipeg Foundation. If you want to learn more about the Causes campaign and how you might be able to participate, please contact us! We’d love to hear from you.

While each donor’s reason for supporting our community is unique – they all share our vision of creating ‘a Winnipeg where community life flourishes for all’. Thank you for your support.

Doneta Brotchie, Board Chair

THE WINNIPEG FOUNDATION SUPPORTS A WIDE RANGE OF COMMUNITY NEEDS, ALL THANKS TO YOU!

Over the years, we’ve established special interest funds that support programs and Causes which – through our work with the community – we’ve identified as important. Thanks to everyone who makes gifts to these funds.

• You Can Do It Awards
• Nourishing Potential Fund
• Growing Active Kids Fund
• Campership Fund
• Literacy for Life Fund
• Youth in Philanthropy Fund
• Friends of Our History Fund

Thank you!
INCREDIBLE IMPACT

Recipient: Knox United Church, in collaboration with Immigrant Integration Farming Community Co-op

Program: Rainbow Community Garden

Grant: $110,000 between 2016 to 2019, drawn from the Gray Family Fund, the Moffat Family Fund, and from the hundreds of Community Funds at The Foundation including the Doris Sussman Fund; the Robert and Shelagh Hinch Fund; and the Dave Hill Fund

RAINBOW COMMUNITY GARDEN PROVIDES MORE THAN HEALTHY, AFFORDABLE FOOD

Birkha Dahal used to ride the bus for company. Now, when the weather is warm, he heads out to the Rainbow Community Garden at the University of Manitoba. An initiative of Immigrant Integration Farming Community Co-op (IIFCC) in collaboration with Knox United Church, in 2019 this garden provided more than 200 newcomer and immigrant families with a place to grow food and build community.

Inset: Raymond Ngarboui, Rainbow Community founder and manager.

Birkha Dahal at the Rainbow Community Garden site at the University of Manitoba.

GROWING COMMUNITY
When Birkha Dahal arrived in Winnipeg in spring 2015, the Bhutanese senior had a hard time finding a community where he felt welcome, especially during the day when the rest of his family was out, says Dahal’s son Amber Dahal.

“My dad, he’d take a bus ticket and he used to ride. He doesn’t speak English [well]... so he used to go to the airport, to Polo Park – he knows some people there. He’d buy a coffee... spend a couple of dollars, and come back home... In wintertime, he just sits and rides a bus, that’s it.”

That was until the family started coming to the Rainbow Community Garden.

“In summertime, this is the best time for the community,” Amber Dahal explains. “Our culture is different; seniors, they spend time with their families. [My father was] really lonely. When this garden started, he felt like he was with some family. And when it is all done, after harvest, he will most likely be alone again.”

Since 2008, the Rainbow Community Garden project has been providing space for families to plant, tend and harvest their own gardens. That first year, 16 families from nine countries had plots at one location. In 2019, 322 families had plots at the project’s seven different sites, which includes two locations in rural Manitoba. Of those, the University of Manitoba site is by far the largest with 214 families – each with at least five members. Plot sizes are determined by the size of the family.

In 2018, Rainbow Community Garden began helping newcomers and Canadian born families grow veggies in their yards using raised beds and planters where needed. Rainbow Community Garden volunteers help build boxes, provide supplies and help prepare the ground for planting.

“We talk to Manitoba Housing authorities and landlords on behalf of the newcomer families to allow them use the front, side or back of apartment buildings and houses, as many cannot express themselves in English. An enormous quantity of veggies has been produced within newcomer families thanks to this new strategy,” says Raymond Ngarboui, who created and manages the Rainbow Community Garden project on behalf of IIFCC. For his work, Ngarboui was honoured with a Volunteer Manitoba Award in 2017.

In 2019, there were 34 nationalities represented at Rainbow Community Garden sites.

“When we are here, it’s like the world is united,” Ngarboui says.

“We are a small United Nations,” adds Nathaniel Ondiaka, who serves on the Rainbow Community Garden Organizing Committee, which provides planning and maintenance.

The bounties harvested by families reduce monthly grocery bills, and last well into the winter season. More than 70,000 kilograms of food was harvested in 2019, with extra sold at Central Park’s Central Market for Global Families, or donated to families in need.
Families have also had great success planting vegetables from their home countries. For example, bitter melon (Momordica Charantia), which is a vine that produces edible fruit, and sukuma, a type of collar greens, have both flourished at the gardens.

There are many stories of how the Rainbow Community Garden has changed lives.

Amira Khalifa and Amal Mahadi arrived in Canada from Sudan about 12 years ago, and have been coming to the Rainbow Community Garden for about four years. Khalifa is Executive Director of the Canadian African Muslim Women’s Association, and this year she started bringing members to the gardens.

“Sometimes they come here to have some privacy,” says Khalifa with a laugh. Coming here can also help reduce stress, she adds.

Gary Srivastava started volunteering at the Rainbow Community Garden in 2012. During the growing season, he comes seven days a week. When he first started coming, Srivastava was on medication to manage high blood pressure and Diabetes. After three years of gardening, spending time outdoors and building a community, his family doctor discovered dramatic improvements to Srivastava’s health, and reduced his medication.

“These are the kind of stories that when I hear them, they give me the motivation to continue,” Ngarboui says.

Throughout the years, Rainbow Community Garden has been generously supported by Knox United Church, the University of Manitoba, Food Matters Manitoba, Community Education Development Association (CEDA), Assiniboine Credit Union, Peter Nikkel of Landmark, Man., the Ernest Braun family of Niverville, Man, and others. The Winnipeg Foundation has also made a number of grants in support of the initiative.

The Rainbow Community Garden Organizing Committee has big plans for the future – if it can secure additional land and funds. There are 50 families on the waiting list each year and they are always looking for more space, Ngarboui says. The group would like to expand the space for seniors, so they have a sheltered and comfortable place to play cards and enjoy tea and coffee. There are also many young people who spend time on site, so the Committee dreams of installing a play structure one day.

Other goals include improving site layout and walking paths; additional sources of water and an easier way to water the plots; providing solar powered lighting and electricity; erecting fencing; ensuring volunteers have access to refreshments and transportation; improving road access; and providing gardening equipment, such as rototillers, trimmers and lawnmowers.

Learn more: knoxwinnipeg.ca/community-rainbow-gardens
Every weekend, Debbie Lendhart Mair goes grocery shopping — but not only for her family.

Lendhart Mair is Principal of Sister MacNamara Elementary School. She arrives at school every Monday morning with enough fruit to last a week in every classroom. Her dedication to feeding students in the Centennial Neighbourhood school fits naturally in her life.

“I am often out shopping for my own family on the weekends, so that’s an opportunity to find some really good kinds of fruits and vegetables that are available for the students,” Lendhart Mair says. “My family also enjoys it. On the weekend I get my husband to come help me because it’s a lot of fruit to bring in.”

Lendhart Mair finds it fulfilling, as the school Principal, to see her students happily eating healthy snacks throughout the day.

“It’s just really rewarding to see how much they appreciate and enjoy it and the smiles on their faces,” she says.

However, the benefits of these school snacks go beyond the smiles on the students’ faces. There are also concrete, tangible changes teachers see in their students’ habits and behaviours because of the snacks.

“There’s plenty of research out there that suggests eating fruits and vegetables is beneficial and that it leads to good health, less sickness and illness,” Lendhart Mair says.

Students themselves even notice the positive effects the healthy snacks have on their learning abilities.

“When it’s after recess we get to pick what fruit we want, and it actually does help a lot with focusing in class because you’re not too hungry,” says Skye MacDonald, a student at Sister MacNamara Elementary School.

Yoseph Haider, another student at the elementary school, enjoys building the fruit bowls with his classmates — an activity that the school’s students get to take part in every Monday. He feels grateful for the opportunity to get a healthy snack during the day.

“I like building the fruit bowls because it’s a great experience. It just helps us because a lot of the time we feel really hungry and we really don’t want to wait until lunchtime and so it’s good that we have fruit bowls,” Haider says.

According to Lendhart Mair, parents of her students appreciate the snack services that the school provides.

“It’s reassuring for parents to know if their child didn’t eat breakfast at home, then they can come to school and even if they miss school breakfast, they can still have a snack that’s a healthy choice for them to eat. Parents really appreciate the wide variety of fruits and vegetables we’re able to offer for their kids here,” Lendhart Mair says. “Sometimes parents are even able to help with us with the breakfast program and do some volunteering.”

School food and nutrition programs like Sister MacNamara Elementary School’s mid-morning snacks are made possible by the Child Nutrition Council of Manitoba (CNC). According to its annual report, during the 2018/19 school year CNC supported 271 school nutrition programs in Manitoba and provided 30,500 students with consistent, healthy snacks and meals at school. Since CNC’s start in 2001, the organization has been responsible for the administration of 4.8 million snacks and meals.

“We are so grateful the Child Nutrition Council of Manitoba is able to provide their support to our school because without their help there is no way we would be able to provide our students with essential nutrients for learning,” Lendhart Mair says.

Jess Gutkin, a Program Dietitian at CNC has seen the way schools like Sister MacNamara Elementary School dedicate themselves to nutrition programming with resources provided by the Council.

“None of this work would be possible unless you have school administrators, staff, volunteers and students who are really working together and making it a possibility because you really need collaboration to make it happen,” Gutkin says.

Lendhart Mair’s dedication to her students comes down to a desire to deliver the best quality of schooling she can.

“We try to do everything we can do in order to make sure the kids have a great learning environment. Providing a healthy snack at morning recess time is just one other layer we can offer, and it’s thanks to the Nutrition Council that we are able to do this,” Lendhart Mair says.

Learn more: childnutritioncouncil.com
Recipient: Child Nutrition Council of Manitoba

Program: Healthy food in schools

Grant: $287,615 over three years, drawn from the Moffat Family Fund

CNC has also received capacity building grants, Youth and Philanthropy grants, and other Donor-Advised grants.

“It does help a lot with focusing in class because you’re not too hungry.”

— Skye MacDonald, Sister MacNamara Elementary School student
Having access to healthy food and learning about cooking and nutrition are not only key to a child’s health and well-being – they also set up lifelong healthy eating habits that can help them reach their full potential.

In response to the needs of community organizations, The Winnipeg Foundation launched its Nourishing Potential initiative in 2011, supporting after-school, drop-in, and summer programs to provide healthy food and nutrition education to Winnipeg kids. Following the winding down of the formal Nourishing Potential initiative in 2015, applications for the program were integrated with The Foundation’s larger Community Grants program. However, following a re-evaluation of its grant-making, The Foundation re-introduced Nourishing Potential as a separate granting stream earlier this year.

“We heard from community organizations that Nourishing Potential was valued as a dedicated program,” says Megan Tate, Director of Community Grants at The Winnipeg Foundation. “Having Nourishing Potential in this stand-alone capacity allows organizations to continue to apply for support while also applying for a diverse range of projects through our Community Grants program.”

Organizations can receive one Nourishing Potential grant each year for up to $10,000 toward food, equipment, and nutrition education or food handling training.

“We know that the need for extra funding to access and learn about healthy food is still there,” Tate says. “The founding principles of Nourishing Potential still hold true today.”
FIVE YEARS OF HEALTHY FOOD

The Winnipeg Foundation’s Nourishing Potential initiative was established in 2011 to help provide healthy food and nutrition education to Winnipeg youth, with a five-year goal of building a $5 million endowment, generating approximately $250,000 each year in grants.

“We were hearing from many youth-serving organizations that they didn’t necessarily have the resources available to provide healthy snacks,” says Megan Tate, The Foundation’s Director of Community Grants. “We established the Nourishing Potential Fund as a way for donors to contribute, and for The Winnipeg Foundation to provide grant support to community organizations.”

Along the way, The Foundation launched several projects to promote Nourishing Potential and its community impact.

In 2014, kids in Grades 4 to 6 shared their healthy sandwich creations in The Foundation’s Recipe for Success Video Cooking Contest. The Grand Prize winner, Strathcona Elementary School’s Wrap of Awesomeness, was featured at Red River College’s Culinary Exchange restaurant.

To help in the push toward the fund’s $5 million goal, NHL star and Stanley Cup Champion Jonathan Toews became an ambassador for Nourishing Potential in the summer of 2015. Over 10 weeks, 341 generous donors joined Jonathan supporting Nourishing Potential and raising $644,000, helping the fund reach its goal by fall 2015.

Recipient: Empowering Indigenous Youth in Governance and Leadership (EIYGL)
Program: Language of Our Ancestors
Grant: $50,000 drawn from the Arnold William and Natalie Riedle Memorial Fund, the Florence Brownridge Educational Fund, and from the hundreds of Community Funds held at The Foundation including the Herbert and Mary Sanger Fund; the Diana, Princess of Wales Memorial Fund; and the Delmore and Emily Crewson Family Fund
Community building is at the heart of a new youth-led initiative to revitalize Indigenous languages. “Language is such a big part of our culture and it really connects us to each other – our families, our communities, our people in general,” says Chelsey Meade, one of the project coordinators of Language of Our Ancestors.

Language of Our Ancestors is a nine-month program coordinated by Meade and Jared Bone. Classes provide participants with an understanding of Cree and Ojibway language fundamentals through classroom instruction and practical creative assignments, culminating in a two-day cultural language immersion camp.

“A lot of the time, fluent language speakers come to the city without having an outlet to speak their own language, so that’s one of the aspects we wanted to really create,” Meade says.

Meade and Bone cited the importance of language revitalization, community building, and increasing their own understandings of Indigenous languages as motivation for their participation. “A big thing about learning a language is not only just having the classes to teach, but also a community to go back and speak with,” Bone says.

Bone feels a responsibility to learn not only for himself, but to be able to pass down the Ojibway language to future generations. “It’s a connection to the past. It’s something that my ancestors have been speaking for thousands of years,” Bone says. “That’s who I am. It’s important to have that self-identity.”

Meade grew up with relatives who spoke Cree, but as she moved to a non-Cree community, and later to Winnipeg, she lost her understanding of the language. “It wasn’t until I started growing older and learned about the colonial impact on my own family that I started feeling less guilty and more interested in learning [the language],” Meade says.

Meade notes the community learning aspect of the classes creates the foundation for a welcoming and respectful environment. “We really want to create a safe space for learning languages, Meade says. “A lot of times, people feel the shame of not knowing it, or embarrassment of not being able to pronounce it... All in all, it’s about respecting one another and being able to express ourselves in a respectful way with each other.”

Classes can include group activities (such as bannock-making), guest speakers or conversations between participants about their language practice outside of class. “It’s fun to talk about these things in the classroom – just going out, getting out of your shell and speaking to people you know,” Bone says. “There’s always a funny story afterwards.”

Participants of the program are also connecting through social media to build on their skills outside of the classroom. “We post Ojibway words of the day and little fun weekly challenges on our Facebook group,” Meade says. “We want to keep participants involved not only for two hours a week. We want to immerse them in any way we can.”

Language of Our Ancestors is offered through Empowering Indigenous Youth in Governance and Leadership (EIYGL), a Winnipeg-based national charity led by Indigenous youth. “There are always young Indigenous people from coast to coast who have ideas of leadership or governance, and they’re looking for mentorship,” says Melanie Dean, Executive Director of EIYGL. “They’re looking for opportunities to learn and expand their networks.”

Established in 2006, EIYGL works closely with the Indigenous Leadership Development Institute (ILDI) to provide additional resources, along with professional development, mentorship and networking. The more young people volunteer with EIYGL, the more access they get to mentorship opportunities, working with ILDI’s facilitators who deliver governance training and executive training.

Language of Our Ancestors classes usually take place at the Manitoba Indigenous Cultural Education Centre at 119 Sutherland Avenue, with Cree language classes on Wednesday evenings and Ojibway language classes on Thursday evenings. Everyone is welcome to take part, and drop-in participants are always welcome to join in on any class.

Learn more:
ildii.ca/courses/language-of-our-ancestors
MAKING CHANGE THROUGH ART
MENTORSHIP PROGRAM HELPS KIDS SEE THEIR INTERESTS IN MURALS

Community art creates community change, and young people in Winnipeg are helping influence that change through the Wall to Wall Mural Festival’s Mentorship Program.

“Public artwork is for communities. Instead of just showing up and putting whatever you want onto a wall, [you have to] think about, ‘Who is going to see this, and who is it for?’” says Annie Beach, an artist who participated in this year’s Mentorship Program. “[You have to] connect with community members who are going to be in this area and give them a chance to play a part in what’s going to be put up on the wall; it gives them a sense of pride and self.”

Beach’s mural, called Moccasin Slippers and Dakota Skippers, was developed in consultation with youth through the Mentorship Program. Featuring pastel-coloured lady slipper orchids and butterflies, it is painted on Bunzy’s Auto Body behind Thunderbird House in downtown Winnipeg.

Wall to Wall is a mural and culture festival held each September. Produced by Synonym Art Collective, the festival is responsible for some of the most vibrant murals in our city. The mentorship component of the festival sees Synonym partner with Graffiti Art Programming (GAP), a charity that offers educational arts and cultural programs for youth. The Mentorship Program has been giving youth a chance to be involved with mural development since 2017.

“Starting with a concept, being able to influence or have input into a mural... gives you that idea that your small thought can have some influence,” explains Pat Lazo, GAP’s Artistic Director. “Seeing a portion of your idea in a mural is a physical manifestation of that idea, and it helps youth take some ownership of the community.”

Through the Mentorship Program, artists conduct workshops with youth in a variety of locations. Beach’s workshops were held at GAP’s Portage Place location called Studio 393, as well as at Turtle Island Neighbourhood Centre, where they engaged youth in collaboration with Mawiyi Wi Chi Itata Centre, a community service provider located in the North End.

“The artists consult with youth to see what their issues are with the community, what sort of things that they would like remedied, and ways that they can make change,” Lazo says.

For her workshops, Beach focused on the concept of layering and asked participants to think about places that were meaningful, as well as memories involving nature. Participants made renderings of different animals and plants using tissue paper collage. These pieces then influenced the mural in terms of colour and composition. Read more about the mural in the sidebar.

Pentar Thomas also mentored youth in this year’s program. His piece, Sakihta Pimatisiwin (Cree for “love life”), features black and white imagery punctuated by lines of vivid red. It is also painted on Bunzy’s Auto Body. Read more about the mural in the sidebar.

“The mentoring programs are important to me because it is something I didn’t have growing up,” Thomas says.

Public art made an impact on Thomas as a child. Growing up on his mother’s and father’s reservations – Cross Lake and Bloodvein – he remembers coming to Winnipeg as a boy and seeing an Indigenous-inspired mural for the first time; this experience helped him realize it’s possible to be an artist.

According to Lazo, this is an important part of Wall to Wall’s Mentorship Program.

“[Youth] get a glimpse into the artist’s practice. They get to see that coming from sketches and drawings in your bedroom, it can evolve and become a professional practice,” he says.

Learn more: walltowallwpg.com

Recipient: Graffiti Art Programming
Program: Wall to Wall Mentorship Program
Grant: $70,000 drawn from the Moffat Family Fund, from the Nourishing Potential Fund, and from Donor-Advised Funds including the Gerald and Debbie Labossiere Family Fund
“SEEING A PORTION OF YOUR IDEA IN A MURAL IS A PHYSICAL MANIFESTATION OF THAT IDEA, AND IT HELPS YOUTH TAKE SOME OWNERSHIP OF THE COMMUNITY.”

– Pat Lazo, Graffiti Art Programming’s Artistic Director

MOCCASIN SLIPPERS AND DAKOTA SKIPPERS

by Annie Beach

This piece is inspired in part by the Ojibwe creation story about a girl whose community is sick. She journeys to a neighbouring community to get medicine. She arrives at night, and rather than wait until morning, she decides to trek home as soon as possible. As she’s walking in the snow, she loses her moccasin slippers and her feet are cut by the ice and snow. She’s determined and makes it home, and everyone is healed because of the medicine.

“The following spring, moccasin slipper flowers bloom where her feet touched. So it’s this really nice story about healing and helping folks,” says artist Annie Beach.

SAKIHTA PIMATISIWIN

by Peatr Thomas

Sakihta Pimatisiwin means “love life” in Cree.

“It’s a phrase that I’ve been using since high school... The teachings [are], ‘Nothing in life is perfect,’” says artist Peatr Thomas.

At first glance, the right half of the predominantly black and white mural appears to be the mirror image of the left, only in reverse.

“They say inside of all of us, there’s a good wolf and a bad wolf. You have to decide, each day, every moment, ‘Which wolf will you feed, the good one or the bad one?’ And you know, there can’t be one without the other; it is similar to yin and yang.”

There are three red lines connecting three circles, both of which represent mind, body and spirit. The circles touch the ground because we all come from the earth. The lines start out straight to represent the innocence of childhood, grow wavy to represent the challenges of adulthood, and then straighten once more to represent the peace which is hopefully obtained in later years.
Promising projects

Donors’ generosity makes it possible to support a variety of projects in our community. The following grants were announced September 2019.

**Urban Shaman Gallery**

**Indigenous artists lecture series**

$3,072 drawn from the Barbara Pearce Arts and Community Fund

Urban Shaman Contemporary Aboriginal Art is a nationally recognized leader in Indigenous arts programming and one of the foremost venues and voices for Indigenous art in Canada.

**MEGAN TATE, DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY GRANTS**

“This is part of a broader event celebrating traditional and contemporary Indigenous art happening at the beginning of 2020. It’s exciting for Winnipeg because we’re able to feature some of the great talent that’s here in our community.”

**Manitoba Association of Women’s Shelters**

**Capacity building with frontline workers**

$15,000 drawn from the Moffat Family Fund

Manitoba Association of Women’s Shelters (M.A.W.S) began in the mid-1980s out of a desire for shelters in Manitoba to work together, provide support, reduce isolation, share best practices and training.

**NENETH BAÑAS, COMMUNITY GRANTS ASSOCIATE**

“The project was identified by frontline workers who noticed an increase in the complexity of issues their clients are facing; from addictions, to child welfare, to justice. Staff are feeling burned out and would like to get training on ways to tackle these issues. Not only does this grant provide support for staff, but it creates a ripple effect and provides better support for clients, providing stability for shelters and for the sector.”

**Community Veterinary Outreach**

**Expanded outreach care**

$33,000 drawn from the Moffat Family Fund

Community Veterinary Outreach aims to improve the health of homeless individuals and their pets in one place, at one time. By offering human health services and health education alongside preventative veterinary care, the organization seeks to improve access to veterinary and human health resources, and leverage the human-animal bond to increase human health resource uptake.

**KERRY RYAN, COMMUNITY GRANTS ASSOCIATE**

“Community Veterinary Outreach is a really innovative program in our city that is addressing the healthcare needs of some of our most vulnerable citizens — and their closest companions.”
Art with Impact Canada
Movies for Mental Health

$10,000 drawn from the A Critical Cause Fund, and other funds

Art with Impact Canada uses art and short film as mediums to create a dialogue around mental health through workshops and programs such as Movies for Mental Health.

NOAH ERENBERG, COMMUNITY GRANTS ASSOCIATE

“This program promotes early intervention for mental illness during a crucial transition period for young adults. The films’ screenings, which are open to students and the public, are facilitated by licenced mental health professionals who use the emotional power of short film to engage people in safe and informed discussions about mental health.”

NEXT GRANTING DEADLINE

The due date for One-Time Community Grants is Jan. 30, 2020.

This is The Foundation’s main granting program, and it supports a wide range of community projects. It accepts requests for up to $100,000.

For info: wpgfdn.org/grants
NEW FUNDS AT THE FOUNDATION

Donors from all walks of life choose to support their favourite Causes – and their community – through The Foundation. Each fund established expresses a donor’s unique philanthropic goals and wishes, and all share The Foundation’s vision of making ‘a Winnipeg where community life flourishes for all.’

Thank you to all our generous donors!

INDIA SCHOOL OF DANCE MUSIC AND THEATRE

The India School of Dance Music and Theatre promotes the East Indian visual and classical performing arts of India in Manitoba. Established in 1980, the school now accommodates more than 150 students and teachers, providing instruction in Bharatanatyam, Kathak, Hindustani music vocals, Carnatic music, Harmonium, Flute, Sitar, and Tabla. The school organizes dance and music performances along with workshops by eminent visiting artists. The India School performed for the Pan Am Games in Winnipeg, Her Royal Highness Princess Anne, and Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

The following funds were established between June 1 and Sept. 30, 2019

**Arts, Culture and Heritage**
- Agassiz Music Fund
- Art City Fund
- India School of Dance Music and Theatre Fund
- The Little Opera Company Fund
- Theatre by the River Fund
- Heritage - Manitoba Crafts Museum and Library Fund
- Heritage - Manitoba Hockey Hall of Fame & Museum Fund
- Heritage - Ogniwo Polish Museum Society Fund
- Heritage - Ukrainian Cultural and Educational Centre Fund
- Manitoba Branch Loyalists’ Fund
- Frances Grace Lowe Memorial Fund

**Environment and Animal Welfare**
- Lake Winnipeg Foundation Fund
- Harry and Flerida Hopkins Environment and Animal Welfare Fund

**Health, Wellness and Recreation**
- Shirley and Ed Mohr Funds
- Harry and Flerida Hopkins CancerCare Manitoba Fund

**Literacy, Education and Employment**
- Louis Riel School Division Trust Fund - Riel-Evate Fund
- Friends of Our History Fund
- 10 Guys Scholarship Fund
- Cathy and Roger Coss “Reach Your Potential” Fund
- Elizabeth Alloway History Scholarship Fund
- The Winnipeg Foundation Indigenous History Scholarship Fund
- Nigerian Association of Manitoba (NAMI) Scholarship Fund
- James Martin Sisler Music Scholarship Fund
- Denis and Eveline Wall Scholarship Fund
- David G.H. Waters Hymn Sing Memorial Award Fund

**Community**
- Brenden da Silva Austman Memorial Fund
- Joshua Chornick Memorial Fund
- Friedman Dalgliesh Family Fund
- Earn Foundation Fund
- Transit Employees Community Fund
- Gladys and Raymond Tanasichuk Funds
- Edith and Douglas Brewer Fund
- Elizabeth Brophy Memorial Fund
- Arthur Elias Memorial Fund
- Richard Higgins Memorial Fund
- H. R. Winram Fund
- Katherine Wood Fund
- Angela Zinghini Memorial Fund
The burden of logistics and roadblocks exists only in the world of adults. In 2011, when Paige Procter was 16-years-old, the only question when she was organizing a cancer fundraiser was: who will drive her around?

“Youth have the advantage of innocence. We don't think about the money — we just have the idea and go with it,” Procter says.

Since then, Procter’s annual event, Coffeehouse to End Cancer, has raised approximately $130,000 for CancerCare Manitoba during its nine-year run.

The fundraising concert event is held every year in Grosse Isle, Procter’s hometown. It features local, amateur musicians, under 30-years-old, from the interlake region. With each year, the event grows in size and success. The 2018 Coffeehouse to End Cancer raised more than $23,000 — the highest in the event’s history.

Procter’s philosophy that underpins the growing success of her concert series is positivity and optimism. Cancer is undoubtedly a devastating plague that touches almost everyone — however, according to Procter we don't only have to focus on the negative.

“Cancer doesn't have to be sad,” Procter says. “The journey doesn't have to be sad. That's the stigma I wanted to drive away when I came up with the idea. People have shared their stories with me and taught me that there are positives.”

Procter’s fundraising work has landed her a Manitoba Philanthropy Award. She received the Emerging Leader in Philanthropy honour at the ceremony, which is put on every year by the Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP), Manitoba Chapter.

“I got quite emotional because it doesn't seem real. This is just what I do,” Procter says regarding her award. “It also feels weird being honoured individually because Coffeehouse to End Cancer is such a community event — I guess you can't have the whole community of Grosse Isle to come up and accept the award.”

The Manitoba Philanthropy Awards were held on National Philanthropy Day, Nov. 15.

Paige Procter, recipient of the 2019 Emerging Leader in Philanthropy Award. Photo courtesy of Paige Procter.

Manitoba Philanthropy Award 2019 honourees

- Marsha Cowan, Outstanding Professional Fundraiser
- Children’s Hospital Guild of Manitoba, Outstanding Service Group
- Manitoba Pork Council, Outstanding Contributions to Philanthropy (under 100 employees)
- Johnston Group, Outstanding Contributions to Philanthropy (over 100 employees)
- Jim Gauthier, Outstanding Philanthropist
- Paige Procter, Emerging Leader in Philanthropy
“She was magic, pure and simple.”
That’s how Dale Laird’s nephew Sorel and niece Meagan described her. And it’s fitting for a woman who was vivacious and vibrant, whose beautiful Soprano voice floated across the water and echoed through Lake of the Woods, who had a lifelong passion for learning, who loved dancing and musical theatre, and who would dress up for no other reason than it was Wednesday.

Dale’s sudden passing in 2017 was deeply felt by her family, friends, and Winnipeg’s musical theatre community. Her husband David is honouring her memory and will recognize their shared interests through a planned gift to The Winnipeg Foundation.

“She decided, if there aren’t any venues for her to perform [the things she wanted to] then she’ll have to create her own opportunities,” Laird says. “She pulled together a number of her friends who were singers and would put on cabarets.”

She eventually re-ignited her joy in singing and cultivated her love of Broadway and pop-inspired musical theatre. After participating in a Gilbert and Sullivan Society of Winnipeg production of The Mikado, she created new opportunities to perform.

She loved traveling, cooking, gardening, organizing parties and looking her best.

“As a close friend said, ‘Dale brought energy and enthusiasm to everywhere she was and everything she did. Dale’s talent for singing and her interest and enthusiasm in “dressing the part” made a special occasion out of everything she did and everywhere she went,”’ David notes.

Dale’s sudden passing in 2017 was deeply felt by her family, friends, and Winnipeg’s musical theatre community. Her husband David is honouring her memory and will recognize their shared interests through a planned gift to The Winnipeg Foundation.

“She decided, if there aren’t any venues for her to perform [the things she wanted to] then she’ll have to create her own opportunities,” Laird says. “She pulled together a number of her friends who were singers and would put on cabarets.”

She frequently organized shows at the Irish Club, the Universalist Church and in Gimli, performing as Toora-Loora Lay, the Way-Off Broadway Cabaret Collective or the Lakeside Cabaret Singers. She was also involved with the Shoestring Players.

She loved traveling, cooking, gardening, organizing parties and looking her best.

“As a close friend said, ‘Dale brought energy and enthusiasm to everywhere she was and everything she did. Dale’s talent for singing and her interest and enthusiasm in “dressing the part” made a special occasion out of everything she did and everywhere she went,”’ David notes.

Dale passed away in August 2017, shortly after being diagnosed with cancer. While the couple had talked about making a Will and supporting their community through an estate gift, they hadn’t finalized plans. David knew Dale wanted to support musical theatre and the Manitoba Conservatory of Music
where she had sung in a choir. The Conservatory directed him to The Winnipeg Foundation. He worked with Foundation staff and determined he would include a legacy gift in his estate plans to support the community in three different ways.

The first is through a scholarship – called the Dale Laird Legacy Bursary – that will support youth studying musical theatre with the Manitoba Conservatory of Music and Arts. The second element is through the Dale Laird Legacy Fund, which will support opportunities for disadvantaged children and youth to access the arts.

“Music was such a large part of her life. She felt there are people in the City of Winnipeg that may not have access to programs because they can’t afford enrollment fees.”

The third pillar is through the David and Dale Laird Legacy Fund, which supports the most pressing needs and emerging opportunities in our community. David worked in human resources for the City of Winnipeg for 33 years and believes in building a strong city.

“What’s more important than a vibrant and lively community? I always saw the work that I did at the City of Winnipeg as supporting the community itself... I always did see working in the public sector as supporting the public good.”

This type of fund supports The Foundation’s responsive Community Grants program.

“Winnipeg is a great city. It has problems, and The Winnipeg Foundation helps deal with those issues and makes Winnipeg a better place as a result.”

“Because the vibrancy of a city is reflected in its arts and cultural activities, bringing joy and meaning to people’s lives.”

– David Laird, Winnipeg Foundation donor

Have you included a gift to the Foundation in your estate plans? You can join the Foundation’s Legacy Circle so we can thank you during your lifetime. Please turn the page to read more.
“Because the welfare of Winnipeg charities relies on the generosity and leadership of our citizens.”

Elizabeth Alloway, The Winnipeg Foundation’s first Legacy Circle member
Women shape the fabric of our community. While women’s roles in society have changed throughout the generations, they have always supported the community through charitable and philanthropic work. This year, The Winnipeg Foundation’s Legacy Circle luncheon paid tribute to some of the incredible women who have supported and shaped our community, including Elizabeth Alloway, The Foundation’s first Legacy Circle member.

The Legacy Circle is our opportunity to thank the generous people who are making planned gifts to the community through The Foundation. Since The Winnipeg Foundation was started nearly 100 years ago, hundreds of people have entrusted their legacies to us. Many of these gifts are made through a Will or estate, and too often, The Foundation becomes aware of them only after the donor passes away. That’s why we established the Legacy Circle – to show appreciation to these individuals and demonstrate the impact their gifts will have.

This year’s event marked the Legacy Circle’s 11th anniversary, and was held Oct. 30 in Alloway Hall at the Manitoba Museum. At last year’s event, The Foundation announced a $1 million grant in support of the Museum’s new Winnipeg Gallery. This year, attendees were able to get a sneak peak of the brand-new exhibit. The event featured remarks from Foundation CEO Rick Frost, Foundation Board Chair Doneta Brotchie, and Manitoba Museum Executive Director and CEO, Claudette LeClerc, who is also a Legacy Circle member. The event also featured a musical performance by Norquay School’s Music Equals Ukelele Club.

Learn more: wpgfdn.org/legacy

Top: Manitoba Museum Executive Director and CEO – and Legacy Circle member – Claudette LeClerc.
Middle, top: Young soloist Niveah Michelle of William Whyte School performs during the event. She is part of the Music Equals program, which is an initiative of the Manitoba Conservatory of Music and Arts.
Middle, bottom: Attendees get a sneak peek at the Manitoba Museum’s new Winnipeg Gallery, which received a $1 million grant from The Foundation.
Bottom: Manitoba Museum’s Alloway Hall is named after The Winnipeg Foundation’s founder, William Forbes Alloway, and his wife Elizabeth, who was our first Legacy Circle member.
“Art made such a huge impact in giving them a voice and helping them to tell their stories while still being able to maintain their calm,” Adam says. “They really got connected with the art making and were able to have a stronger voice.”

Adam’s experience at New Directions influenced her to return to school, and she completed an art therapy diploma in the United States. While she was able to travel for school, Adam knew others would not have that ability. To offer a local art therapy option, Adam started a pilot program with the University of Winnipeg in 2014. This pilot eventually evolved into WHEAT Institute, which today is the only school on the prairies to offer programs in art therapy and expressive arts. The school uses a holistic approach to education that incorporates connections with history, nature, culture, and respect for Indigenous Ways of Knowing. Courses are now offered throughout the prairies with locations in the Winnipeg area, Saskatchewan and Northern Ontario. WHEAT also offers programming in remote or rural communities.

Though the art therapy education is now available on the prairies, financial barriers may remain for some. That’s why Adam created two scholarships, both of which are endowed at The Winnipeg Foundation. The first is the WHEAT Institute Scholarship Fund, which will support art students studying at WHEAT. The second, named after Indigenous leader Elder Harry Bone, supports art students of Indigenous ancestry studying at WHEAT.

Providing financial support so students can experience all that WHEAT has to offer is something that resonates with Janine Tougas. She hopes that by making 60 copies of her game Fairytales – Our Tales available to anyone who contributes at least $200 to the scholarships, she will encourage more gifts to the scholarship funds.

“You buy a chocolate bar, you go to a dinner, but it doesn’t have that much to do with the actual fund you’re giving to,” Tougas says. “To me, [giving to the scholarship fund and receiving a copy of the game] it’s a double whammy in the sense that there’s money going to the Institute, plus you receive a tool that you can use with clients.”

Adam welcomes the opportunity to make attending WHEAT more accessible.

“We’re very excited at the possibilities and certainly hope to increase the number of students that can benefit,” Adam says. “We know it’s a process that gives back so beautifully.”

Learn more: wheatinstitute.com

To make a gift to WHEAT Institute scholarships: wpgfdn.org/give and search “WHEAT Institute”
Fund: WHEAT Institute Scholarship Fund; Elder Harry Bone WHEAT Institute Award Fund
Cause: Arts, Culture and Heritage
Supports: Students enrolled at WHEAT Institute
ENGAGING YOUTH IN THE PARLIAMENTARY PROCESS

YOUTH PARLIAMENT OF MANITOBA BUILDS IMPORTANT LEADERSHIP SKILLS AND EDUCATES THE NEXT GENERATION ABOUT THE PROCESS OF LEGISLATION

“AN INTIMATE UNDERSTANDING OF THE MECHANICS OF POLITICS CAN BETTER INFORM YOUTH ADVOCACY ABOUT POLITICAL CHANGE THEY’D LIKE TO SEE.”

– Deborah Tsao, Youth Parliament of Manitoba Premier and Chairperson
For 98 years, Youth Parliament of Manitoba has been fostering generations of future leaders and informed citizens.

“It’s always important to be aware of the way [the political] process works, be involved with our communities, and learn about how we can make a difference with our voices and [political impact],” says Abigail Theano-Pudwill, Deputy Premier and Vice-Chairperson of the 98th Youth Parliament.

In a model parliamentary session, participants go through the process of legislation writing, debate, amendment, and a final vote.

“An intimate understanding of the mechanics of politics can better inform youth advocacy about political change they’d like to see, and can help inspire youth to get involved in politics themselves,” says Deborah Tsao, Premier and Chairperson of the 98th Youth Parliament.

Youth Parliament of Manitoba is a youth-led charitable organization, with a five-member Board of Directors elected from its participants. While the program provides practical experience through the political process, the skills are also highly transferable.

“The skills you develop in Youth Parliament, such as critical thinking – when you can look at one piece of legislation and be able to think of arguments for and against, to be able to challenge your own preconceptions – is so valuable no matter what field you pursue,” Tsao says.

Participants also learn about the importance of public speaking, time management, and how to communicate effectively and respectfully with team members.

Each year, Youth Parliament holds a Winter Session from December 26 to 31 at the Manitoba Legislative Building. During the five-day session, Tsao says members of Youth Parliament make lifelong connections.

“For many [participants], it’s the first time they’ve been in a group of people who are as passionate about social change and politics as they are,” Tsao says. “Youth Parliament has been the source of some of my closest friends in my life, and it’s the same with almost every single person I know who’ve come through the organization.”

Some notable alumni of the program include former politicians Lloyd Axworthy and Bill Blaikie, foreign correspondent Nala Ayed, and community activist Michael Champagne.

Youth Parliament is open to students all across Manitoba, and strives to be accessible to as many youth as possible to ensure that everyone can be involved.

“We make sure every single person that wants to take part in Youth Parliament is able to, whether it be a financial barrier or a public speaking barrier,” Theano-Pudwill says.

To increase the program’s accessibility, Youth Parliament has expanded its financial aid programs during the past several years. A scholarship provides opportunities for Indigenous youth to attend the session, covering travel costs from northern Manitoba as well as additional expenses. Additional awards have also helped make Youth Parliament accessible to newcomer youth and refugees.

“It’s not just the registration fee. It can be things like not having the right clothes to wear, or not having the means to fly to Winnipeg,” Tsao says. “By removing these types of financial barriers, we’ve been able to improve the diversity of people who come to session in the past few years.”

In 2021, Youth Parliament of Manitoba will be celebrating its centennial year, and to lead up to the milestone, it has launched a capital campaign with the goal of building its Agency Fund at The Winnipeg Foundation to $100,000.

“We want to make sure Youth Parliament is accessible, stable, and long-lasting,” Theano-Pudwill says.

Tsao says establishing the endowment fund will give Youth Parliament of Manitoba financial stability while eliminating financial barriers for participants.

“The interest generated by the endowment fund each year will create enough income to cover costs of all the registration fees for a Winter Session,” Tsao says. “It’ll provide a lot more opportunities for us to give financial aid, build our operations, and expand our outreach in rural and northern areas.”

Youth Parliament’s capital campaign is being supported by The Foundation’s Agency Fund matching program, which in its current phase stretches every $5 gift by an additional $1.

“We’re really proud of that partnership,” Tsao says.

Learn more: ypmanitoba.ca

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**WHAT IS AN AGENCY FUND**

Established to support local charities, Agency Funds are permanent endowments funds held at The Foundation. The annual income generated is used at the charity’s discretion. An Agency Fund is typically part of a longer-term strategy aimed at providing sustainable core funding.

Learn more: wpgfdn.org/agencyfunds
BUILDING CAPACITY TO REALIZE ARTISTIC EXPRESSION

FEDERAL PROGRAM STRETCHES GIFTS TO SELECT AGENCY FUNDS

A federal program is helping local arts organizations have reliable revenue streams by stretching gifts made to charities’ Agency Funds. Since 2001, this has resulted in close to $18 million in federal payments to our community. These endowments provide greater capacity for realizing artistic expression.

The Winnipeg Foundation’s Agency Endowment Fund program also provides charities with annual payments over which they have discretion. Agency Funds are typically part of a charity’s longer-term strategy to ensure stable core funding.

The Winnipeg Folk Festival established its Agency Endowment Fund at The Winnipeg Foundation in 2000.

“It creates stability, it creates consistency, and it really lowers my stress level a lot to know that I’ve got this consistent money coming in,” Folk Fest’s Executive Director Lynne Skromeda says of the organization’s Agency Fund.

Through the Endowment Incentives component of the Canada Culture Investment Fund program, Canadian Heritage encourages private donors to contribute to arts organizations’ endowment funds. There are more than 20 qualifying arts organizations in Winnipeg that have Agency Funds at The Foundation.

The Foundation’s own stretch program adds additional revenue to these Agency Funds, and then this total amount is stretched by funding from Canadian Heritage. In some years, this is matched dollar-for-dollar. The Winnipeg Foundation works with Agency Fund holders to submit applications to the Federal Incentives program annually.

Since the program’s inception in 2001, a total of $23,439,310 has been raised by the community, The Winnipeg Foundation has contributed $1,402,188 in stretch funding, and $17,853,494 has been received in federal stretch dollars, bringing the total impact to $42,694,991.

Learn more: wpgfdn.org/agencyfunds
MOST ACTIVE AGENCY FUNDS IN 2019
These funds received the greatest number of gifts in 2019.

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<tr>
<th>Fund</th>
<th>Number of gifts</th>
<th>Value of gifts</th>
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<td>IISD Experimental Lakes Area Fund</td>
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<td>Manitoba P.E.O. Foundation Fund</td>
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<td>Villa Rosa Endowment Fund</td>
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<td>Pulford Community Living Services Endowment Fund</td>
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<td>Royal Winnipeg Ballet Endowment Funds</td>
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<td>Wildlife Haven Rehabilitation Centre Endowment Fund</td>
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<td>Assiniboine Park Conservancy Funds</td>
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<td>Esther House Endowment Fund</td>
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AGENCY FUNDS THAT HAVE GENERATED THE MOST IN 2019
The most revenue generated is determined by the fund’s average market value.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fund</th>
<th>Amount to spend</th>
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<tr>
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<td>Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra Endowment Funds</td>
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<td>Pimachiowin Aki World Heritage Fund</td>
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<td>Fort Whyte Foundation Trust Funds</td>
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<td>Forks Foundation Endowment Funds</td>
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<td>Winnipeg Folk Festival Funds</td>
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<td>Grace Hospital Foundation Endowment Funds</td>
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<td>Plug In Institute of Contemporary Art Endowment Fund</td>
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</table>
WORKING TOGETHER: WHAT MADE YOU JOIN SIP?

Nav Brar: I’ve always been interested in human rights and non-profit work, but I didn’t quite have a focus. I thought if The Winnipeg Foundation could pair me with an organization that suited my interests, maybe I would be able to find a better focus. I thought it would also provide a good foundation for any future pursuits in the sector.

WT: WHAT WAS YOUR EXPERIENCE LIKE?

Nav: It’s been amazing. I found such great role models here that teach me something new every day. My opinions are validated and just having the conversations and learning from all these people around me who are such great feminists, has helped me grow as a person and as feminist and as an activist.

WT: SPEAKING OF GROWTH, WHAT ARE SOME OF THE SKILLS YOU GAINED FROM YOUR SIP EXPERIENCE?

Nav: I’ve furthered my communication skills. I’m able to talk to people one on one and email others in formal and informal ways. I’ve also learned a lot of the behind the scenes of event organization. You go to these great events put on by great organizations and all you see is what’s in front of you. You don’t see the months of work and stress that went into it.

WT: DO YOU PLAN TO STAY INVOLVED WITH THE CHARITABLE SECTOR GOING FORWARD?

Nav: Yes, definitely. Reproductive health, gender equity and those things have been close to my heart all my life. Now that I’ve worked in the health care sector and with people at the Women’s Health Clinic, this is something I would like to continue.

WT: WHY SHOULD PEOPLE VOLUNTEER OR SUPPORT CHARITABLE ORGANIZATIONS IN OUR CITY?

Nav: I want to give back to the community that helped develop me into the person I am. I’m proud to be the person I am today, and it wouldn’t have been possible without the community, the people, the programs and organizations that I’ve experienced in my life.

“I FOUND SUCH GREAT ROLE MODELS HERE THAT TEACH ME SOMETHING NEW EVERY DAY.”

– Nav Brar, Summer Internship Program participant
WORKING TOGETHER: WHY DID YOUR ORGANIZATION WANT TO BE INVOLVED WITH SIP?

Amy Tuckett-McGimpsey: As a non-profit, charitable organization we are in constant need of funds and help. We depend on volunteers as they are the heart of Women’s Health Clinic. Having Nav has been so helpful. It was really a win-win for us.

WT: WHAT DO YOU HOPE INTERNS LEARN FROM THEIR EXPERIENCE?

Amy: We wanted to show her what health care really is, and help her understand reproductive health care and the wide spectrum of services we have at Women’s Health Clinic. We try to use language that’s inclusive, welcoming and non-judgmental, so giving thought to that and looking at things with a critical lens are things I hope she takes away.

WT: WHY IS IT IMPORTANT THAT THE WINNIPEG FOUNDATION’S SUMMER INTERNSHIP PROGRAM EXISTS?

Amy: It gives us an opportunity to do so much more. With health care cuts, we must do more with less. To have enthusiastic, competent, and intelligent students work for us is such a game-changer. This summer, we were able to do so much more. Things we had only dreamed of. Nav really made an impact on our organization and that was all through The Winnipeg Foundation.

WT: IS THERE ANYTHING THAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO SAY TO YOUR SUMMER INTERN?

Amy: It has been such a pleasure to work with her. She’s been enthusiastic about everything she’s done, whether it is unloading T-shirts at the downtown farmer’s market, calling people on the phone to thank them for their donation, fundraising, or sourcing out the canopy for the farmer’s market. Everything is tackled with enthusiasm and integrity and it’s just been a pleasure. Thank you so much.

Learn more: wpgfdn.org/youngwinnipegconnect

FROM A MENTOR’S PERSPECTIVE

TO HAVE ENTHUSIASTIC, COMPETENT, AND INTELLIGENT STUDENTS WORK FOR US IS SUCH A GAME CHANGER. THIS SUMMER, WE WERE ABLE TO DO SO MUCH MORE.”

– Amy Tuckett-McGimpsey, Women’s Health Clinic; Summer Internship Program mentor

2019 PLACEMENTS

This year, youth were placed at the following charities:

- Mosaic Newcomer Family Resource Network
- Rainbow Stage
- End Homelessness Winnipeg
- Women’s Health Clinic
- Canada’s National History Society
- Centre Flavie Laurent
- West Broadway Community Organization
- Variety, The Children’s Charity of Manitoba
- Nor’West Co-op Community Health
- Ma Mawi-Wi Chi-Iitata Centre
- West Broadway Youth Outreach
- Winnipeg Harvest
Sign up today to make a monthly gift. It’s easy and automatic!

Help make ‘a Winnipeg where community life flourishes for all.’

wpgfdn.org/give | 204.944.9474
Storytelling can be a powerful key to the hearts and minds of an audience — if done right. The Winnipeg Foundation’s Fast Pitch program gives members of the charitable sector the skills and confidence to articulate their organization’s impact to potential donors in the form of a pitch.

Fast Pitch participants are paired up with coaches from the business sector. Through weekly training and coaching sessions, participants learn the art of pitching. The sessions culminate in a Showcase event where participants face off in a friendly competition for $26,000 in prizes.

Just after his Fast Pitch win in February 2019, Ken Opaleke, Executive Director of West Broadway Youth Outreach, shared his thoughts on winning the $10,000 grand prize for his organization.

“I am shocked, thrilled and thankful beyond measure for Fast Pitch. Every penny of this is going directly to the kids in our community,” Opaleke says. “I want to go back to our centre tomorrow and send the message out to every volunteer that, ‘Because of you, this happened’.”

Brendan McKeen of the Manitoba Underground Opera says he developed an even stronger method of expressing the importance of the arts through his experience in Fast Pitch.

“I loved Fast Pitch. I had two wonderful coaches who weren’t artists themselves, but had such a passion for the arts,” McKeen shared at the celebratory Fast Pitch Mixer in September. “It was really inspiring to talk during our sessions about what we do and why we do it with people who didn’t study [opera] for eight years.”

To the audience of potential participants, McKeen explained how important it is to learn to communicate the value of his work.

“One of my coaches said to me in a life-changing moment, ‘Sometimes when we feel like society is moving backwards, it is the arts’ job to move it forward’,” McKeen says.

The Mixer was held to mark the past four years of Fast Pitch, as the program moves into its fifth year, after which it will take a hiatus.

To learn more about Fast Pitch or apply to be a coach or participant, visit: fastpitchwinnipeg.org.
COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP

STRENGTHENING THE MANITOBA COMMUNITY FOUNDATION MOVEMENT

ENDOW MANITOBA WORKING WITH COMMUNITY FOUNDATIONS TO ENHANCE IMPACT

Community foundations throughout the province help their local communities flourish. New, more responsive and proactive programming, delivered by Endow Manitoba in support of the community foundation movement, is helping to build an even stronger network.

An Endow Manitoba Provincial Advisory Board was recently established to help ensure programs in development and delivered through The Winnipeg Foundation will continue to support the needs of Manitoba community foundations in an effective and collaborative manner.

The Advisory Board, which includes representatives from community foundations across the province, provides insight and feedback about Endow Manitoba priorities, programs, and activities.

“Representatives are the ones on the ground in their respective communities and regions. They carry the knowledge about the wants and needs of their foundation – what works and what doesn’t, but also the desire to learn and grow as a movement,” says Reg Black, Chair of the Brokenhead River Community Foundation, and a founding member of the Advisory Board. “Collaboration among members of the Advisory Board will no doubt be a huge benefit for the foundation movement in our province.”

One of the first steps in supporting the expanded programming has been a revamp of the Endow Manitoba brand. The new design pays homage to communities’ individualities while recognizing we are all connected within the province we call home.

“Foundations, in my opinion, remain one of the best kept secrets in our communities,” Black says. “The education and marketing in our communities is something that not only needs to be enhanced but continually done.”

Community foundations will also get a public boost during celebrations for Manitoba’s 150th birthday in 2020, as support for legacy projects is being channeled through local community foundations. See page 44 for details.

Some of the new programs and initiatives being developed and coordinated by Endow Manitoba on behalf of community foundations are highlighted on the following pages.

The Winnipeg Foundation has been supporting the community foundation movement across Manitoba through capacity building programs and activities for more than two decades. In 2018, it expanded the Endow Manitoba team to help focus and enhance efforts.

Learn more: endowMB.org

ENDOW MANITOBA PROVINCIAL ADVISORY BOARD

REG BLACK - BROKENHEAD RIVER COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
LARRY BUZINSKI - DAUPHIN & DISTRICT COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
BRIAN COTTON - BRANDON AREA COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
DR. IBRAHIMA DIALLO - FRANCOFONDS
SCOTT DOELL - WINKLER COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
BARRY GOSNELL - CARMAN AREA FOUNDATION
ANITA JANZEN-GEMMELL - COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF PORTAGE AND DISTRICT
RON JEFFERIES - GLENBORO AREA FOUNDATION
GERRY LABOSSIERE - THE WINNIPEG FOUNDATION
GLENN MCGREGOR - WAWANESA COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
MICHELE POLINUK - SELKIRK AND DISTRICT COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
DR. ALLAN PRESTON - HAMIOTA COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

“COLLABORATION AMONG MEMBERS OF THE ADVISORY BOARD WILL NO DOUBT BE A HUGE BENEFIT FOR THE FOUNDATION MOVEMENT IN OUR PROVINCE.”

– Reg Black, Chair of the Brokenhead River Community Foundation; Endow Manitoba Advisory Board member

Photo courtesy of Reg Black.
Best practices manual: developing a recipe for community foundation success

There’s a saying amongst community foundations: if you’ve seen one community foundation, you’ve seen one community foundation. That is to say, each community foundation is as unique as the community it supports. Despite their uniqueness, there are many common elements between community foundations, and that’s what the best practices manual – which is currently in development – is attempting to identify and share.

“The manual will help community foundations understand and establish their own path forward,” says Alan Goddard, Director of Endow Manitoba. “It’s less of a book and more of a map to help them reach the success they define for themselves.”

Community foundation Board members and staff from a variety of communities are being asked to provide insight into what makes their organization successful, and what innovative practices they have developed to support that success. The publication is expected to be released 2020.

For more information about the process or to get involved, please contact info@endowMB.org

Indigenous philanthropy research project: a step forward in our truth and reconciliation journey

In number, history, and impact, Manitoba leads the nation in the community foundation movement. Even with this leadership, there has been a noticeable gap in the overall engagement of one segment of our Manitoba landscape: Indigenous communities.

A new project, in collaboration with the University of Manitoba, has been initiated to address this gap. The initiative will examine how community foundations throughout the province can best work with Indigenous communities, and then undertake a small pilot program to apply those best practices.

“During the past few years, we have been on a shared journey to learn more about what truth and reconciliation means and what actions we can take as individuals, and as an organization,” says Rick Frost, CEO of The Winnipeg Foundation. “This work, in conjunction with Endow Manitoba, Indigenous communities and Manitoba community foundations, is a step along that journey.”

The Indigenous Philanthropy Research project has a planned completion date of fall 2021.
Manitoba is celebrating its 150th birthday in 2020, and community foundations are playing a pivotal role.

Build 150, a celebratory program announced by Manitoba 150, is supporting projects that will leave a lasting legacy in communities across the province. Applicants will submit ideas for infrastructure or “bricks and mortar” projects to their local community foundations. Each community foundation will decide which projects to fund, and the Build 150 program will provide $1.22 million in matching grants.

“Since we began work this past spring, we’ve been in touch with many groups and organizations that are excited to launch projects in their communities and just need some help to get their ideas off the ground,” says Monique LaCoste, Manitoba 150 Co-Chair. “By providing some co-funding, we can help make those projects happen.”

Examples of qualifying projects include public art or bike racks, community centre or medical facility equipment, and revitalization of items with historical significance.

Grant maximums per foundation will be based on the size of each foundation’s assets and will range from $5,000 to $300,000. Funding for the Build 150 program will be provided in part by James Richardson and Sons Limited and affiliated companies. Endow Manitoba, an initiative of The Winnipeg Foundation, is helping coordinate the program.

Two additional Manitoba 150 programs are Celebrate 150 and Honour 150. Celebrate 150 will provide support to communities and organizations to host celebratory events. The program will provide grants covering up to 70 per cent of total event costs, with a maximum grant amount of $300,000. Honour 150 invites Manitobans to nominate outstanding individuals who have made an impact in their community. This program, supported by Canada Life, will honour 150 volunteers.

“We hope Manitobans will take advantage of funding available through the Build 150 and Celebrate 150 programs and will think about who they’d like to nominate for Honour 150,” says Stuart Murray, Manitoba 150 Co-Chair. “We have more announcements coming up that we know will help instill a lasting pride in our home province.”

2020 officially marks the 150th anniversary of the Manitoba Act. Through this act, Manitoba became Canada’s fifth province.

Learn more: manitoba150.com.
Initiated by the Province of Manitoba, the Manitoba Heritage Trust Program (MHTP) is helping support more than 200 museums and heritage institutions across our province by helping them create endowment funds that provide annual revenue.

By assisting in sustainability, MHTP allows places like the Prairie View Elevator Museum—which exists in a retired grain elevator in Plum Coulee, Man.—to continue giving Manitobans that treasured look into our past.

“This elevator is extremely important to our community,” says Heather Unger, Plum Coulee Community Foundation board member. “We were one of the first museums to sign up for the program.”

The prairies aren’t only rich with serene landscapes and friendly people, but also with history.

To help keep that rich history alive, The Winnipeg Foundation is administrating MHTP, with support from the Association of Manitoba Museums, the Association for Manitoba Archives and several community foundations across the province.

Plum Coulee is one of the many towns and communities in Manitoba that benefits—or will benefit—from the historical preservation work of MHTP. The program helps museums and archives all over the province with various costs.

“I proposed joining the Heritage Trust Program to the museum committee. We already have a fund in place to maintain the structure of the elevator. It only made sense that we develop a fund for the inner-operations of the elevator,” Unger says.

In addition to the Prairie View Elevator Museum, approximately 50 organizations are working with the program.

Every $2 given to an organization’s MHTP endowment is stretched by $1 — so a $2 gift becomes a $3 gift. Along with distributing the stretch funding, The Foundation provides organizations with administrative support, like producing tax receipts and promotional resources to help them fundraise during the three-year program.

Learn more: endowMB.org

**MHTP FUNDS**

The following MHTP Funds were opened between June 1 and Sept. 30, 2019.

- Manitoba Crafts Museum and Library Fund
- Keystone Pioneer Museum Fund
- Ogniwo Polish Museum Society Fund
- Oak Lake & District Museum Fund
- Marine Museum of Manitoba (Selkirk) Fund
- Minnedosa Regional Archives Fund
- Manitoba Hockey Hall of Fame and Museum Fund
- Winnipeg River Heritage Museum Fund
- Ukrainian Cultural and Educational Centre Fund
- Musée de St Pierre Jolys Fund
- Woodlands Pioneer Museum Fund
COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP

JOURNEY THROUGH MANITOBA AND ITS HISTORY

BECAUSE RADIO TAKES LISTENERS ON A SUMMER SERIES OF ROAD TRIPS TO MUSEUMS AND ARCHIVES ACROSS MANITOBA

The Winnipeg Foundation’s BeCause Radio delivers feel-good, philanthropic stories from Winnipeg and beyond.

During the summer, BeCause Radio hosts Robert Zirk, Sonny Primolo and Jeremy Morantz stepped out of the studio and travelled throughout the province learning about the history of various communities in Manitoba. The museums visited are all participating in the Manitoba Heritage Trust Program – read more on page 45.

You can listen to the full BeCause Radio Road Trip series online by visiting wpgfdn.org/bcrroadtrip

And don’t miss BeCause Radio each week on CJNU 93.7 FM.

TRANScona MUSEUM – WINNIPeG
Found right in the heart of Downtown Transcona, this museum is full of displays that depict the area’s roots in railway labour.
transconamuseum.mb.ca

sAINT BONIFACE MUSEUM – WINNIPeG
Within the walls of an old home on the banks of the Red River, formerly occupied by the Grey Nuns, the Saint Boniface Museum brings local history to life through atmospheric and interactive elements.
msbm.mb.ca

OSeReDoK uKRAIInIAN CULTURAL AND EDUCATIONAL CENTRE – WINNIPeG
Through exhibits, artifacts and historical documents, Oseredok celebrates Ukrainian culture and Ukrainian heritage in Manitoba.
oseredok.ca

MANITOBA BASKeTTBALL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM – WINNIPeG
From old, wool jerseys to the story of Winnipeg’s only NBA player, everything basketball related in Manitoba lives here.
mbhof.com

WINKLER HERItAGE MUSEUM – WINKLER
In addition to its variety of artifacts from Winkler’s historic past, the Winkler Heritage Museum feature a comprehensive Stories and Stories project which has information on many deceased people found in the town’s cemeteries.
winklerheritagesociety.ca/museum.html

MANITOBA BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM – MORDEN
The museum honours the achievements of players, teams, and builders, and features a variety of memorabilia from Manitoba’s baseball history, including uniforms, gloves, baseballs, bats, trophies, caps, and photos.
mbhof.ca
PLUM COULEE PRAIRIE VIEW ELEVATOR MUSEUM – PLUM COULEE
Situated in a former grain elevator, the museum showcases artifacts from Plum Coulee’s history and features an observation bin giving visitors a 100-foot view of the town.
facebook.com/prairiewievlevator

NEW ICELAND HERITAGE MUSEUM – GIMLI
Located in the heart of ‘New Iceland,’ this museum is home to many permanent, temporary and travelling exhibitions. The museum displays stories of Icelandic settlers in Manitoba.
nihm.ca

TREHERNE MUSEUM – TREHERNE
Across five buildings, the museum’s exhibits include a pioneer house dating to 1906, a fully functional blacksmith shop, a replica town, and one of the largest gun collections in Manitoba.
facebook.com/trehernemuseumMNT

LUNDAR MUSEUM – LUNDAR
The Lundar Museum spans many buildings including an old train station, a house once occupied by a Lundar family and a church that was moved from 14 kilometers down the highway.
travelmanitoba.com/listings/lundar-museum/1313

THE BURROUGH OF THE GLEANN MUSEUM – GLENBORO
As a farming community, Glenboro’s museum has an array of outdated farm technology from an era long past. You can also find a true-to-life general store from the early 20th century where town residents could find anything from ice cream, to eyewear, to their mail.
glenboro.com/the-burrough-of-the-gleann-museum

CARBERRY PLAINS MUSEUM – CARBERRY
What town doesn’t like to boast about their celebrity connections? Among many other exhibits, Carberry Plains Museum features its connections to many well-known Canadians such as Tommy Douglas. You can also stroll through the “Gingerbread House,” a large, Victorian-style home located on-site.
townofcarberry.ca/carberry-plains-museum

LAC DU BONNET DISTRICT MUSEUM – LAC DU BONNET
Visitors of the Lac du Bonnet District Museum can learn about Manitoba’s first female mayor, Edie Brown, who became mayor of the town in 1952.
ldbhistorical.ca
COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP

Jennifer Jones

“Because of my family and community, and the strength they give me, I am never scared to fail.”

Jennifer Jones is an Olympic Gold Medalist and one of most decorated curlers of all time. The proud Winnipegger is also an avid volunteer and proponent of various charitable organizations, including the Sandra Schmirler Foundation and Special Olympics Canada.

“Sport has changed my life,” Jones says. “It gave me confidence, it gave me community, it gave me friends. I think about those kids that never feel like they belong and that makes me sad, because there’s this whole community that, if they could just become a part of it, it’s almost an instant family.”

For Jones, self esteem and a strong work ethic go hand-in-hand.

“I always tell my daughter, nobody can outwork you, because you can control that. There’s a lot of things outside of our control in life – but how we behave, how we react, how hard we work – that’s all within our control,” Jones says. “As long as you go out there and you work your hardest, you’re always going to feel good about yourself.”

Hear the full interview ➔ Episode 13

Ben Kramer

“Because food is a basic human right.”

Chef Ben Kramer is a world-caliber, internationally celebrated chef who, through decades of tireless work and activism, has helped change the way western Canada approaches cuisine. Promoting the farm-to-table restaurant format has been one of his passions since he began his career.

“From a consumer’s point of view, as a Chef, we’re at one of the best times in history because people are holding us accountable,” Kramer says. “Food is a huge part of our culture right now and one of the benefits is people are educated and making connections with farmers [to understand] where their food comes from.”

Another of Chef Kramer’s Causes is helping educate people about proper food prep and nutrition.

“The education around food has dwindled over the years; there’s a real lack of actual cooking and actual nutrition in schools,” Kramer says. “Let’s get kids into the kitchen and make learning food autonomy a priority, and not rely on corporations or your parents to feed you. That’s a skill that’s going to carry them for their entire life, probably more than trigonometry is.”

Hear the full interview ➔ Episode 16
“Because I have kids, because you have kids, and because they’ll likely have kids, we have to figure out how to live in a better relationship with the earth and with each other.”

Dr. Ian Mauro is a climate scientist and researcher, a professor at the University of Winnipeg, co-director of the Prairie Climate Centre and an internationally acclaimed filmmaker who has worked with David Suzuki. He was also a panelist at The Winnipeg Foundation’s Vital Conversation on climate change in September – read more on page 51.

“The consumption culture that goes along with the modern industrial initiative, and the technology that supports it, is really at the centre of the climate crisis – and our existential crisis as human beings,” Dr. Mauro says. Through his work with the Prairie Climate Centre, the Climate Atlas, and filmmaking, Dr. Mauro tells stories of people affected by the climate catastrophe – including Inuit communities in the Arctic – and helps look for solutions.

“When I think about the richness of Indigenous communities, and the centering their knowledge has, that is something that can help guide all of these other technologies and sciences,” Dr. Mauro says. “If you can bring these worlds together – the Indigenous wisdom and scientific knowledge – [we can] build a society that honours the richness in these different ways of knowing.”

Hear the full interview > Episode 14

“Because we’re all artists. We all have stories to tell in some way, and they connect us to each other. Once we understand each other better, we will all be better.”

Joy Loewen has made it her purpose to give a hand up to those in need. Through her countless board appointments, her volunteer work, or as Acting Executive Director of the National Screen Institute (NSI), Loewen truly lives a life of service to others.

“It’s nothing purposeful; I seek to serve,” Loewen says. “I grew up in a family where, at a very early age, I was a caregiver. I come from small town Manitoba, where volunteering, doing for others, helping out your neighbour is not mandated – you just do it.”

Joy has been with NSI for 11 years, and though it launched in Edmonton, it now operates out of Manitoba.

“What you really need to move forward as a storyteller in this industry is connections. What NSI does well is provide those connections to the industry, as well as provide you with the skills that get you to the next step in your career,” Loewen says. “We want to help ensure that people across our nation and around the world are hearing the stories of Canadians.”

Hear the full interview > Episode 18
HONING IN ON HUMAN RIGHTS  WINNIPEG HOSTS SYMPOSIUM FOR COMMUNITY FOUNDATION LEADERS

By supporting communities to be well-informed, community foundations can create a more compassionate society. A recent symposium for community foundation leaders, hosted by The Winnipeg Foundation, aimed to ensure they are well-informed about human rights issues Canadians face every day.

“It is important that community foundations are aware of the human rights challenges happening in the communities they serve,” says Jennifer Partridge, The Foundation’s Strategic Projects Associate and organizer of the symposium. “In this way, community foundations can take a leadership role in supporting programs that address local human rights challenges, building an equitable society, and helping create more empathetic citizens.”

Common Ground Human Rights Symposium, held in September in partnership with the Canadian Museum for Human Rights, highlighted current issues community foundations need to be aware of, including truth and reconciliation, Islamophobia, and the experiences of refugees and asylum seekers. Attendees included leaders from 13 community foundations across Canada.

The group heard about barriers to Indigenous rights that have direct impacts on individuals and communities – a crisis exemplified by the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Women and Girls. They toured Thunderbird House where they heard from local community and business leaders including Bank of Montreal Senior Advisor of Indigenous Relations and former MLA, Kevin Chief, and Executive Chairman of True North Sports and Entertainment and Winnipeg Jets Hockey Club, Mark Chipman who spoke on the successes and challenges of reconciliation.

On-site at the Winnipeg Central Mosque, participants gained insights into the strengths and stereotypes of the Islamic community through a workshop on Islamophobia. The teachings, provided by Islamic Social Services Volunteer Executive Director, Shahina Siddiqui gave a humanized understanding of a faith some people fear.

The raw stories of individuals having to flee their home country – and the struggles of arriving in a new one – illuminated the symposium’s visit to Welcome Place. Here, Executive Director Rita Chahal shared the uniqueness of the Manitoba model in welcoming and guiding newcomers through social and legal systems.

“The Common Ground Human Rights Symposium offered hands-on learning experiences for national community foundation leadership to understand human rights challenges, the value of diversity and best practices in our communities,” Partridge says. “The Canadian Museum for Human Rights makes Winnipeg a natural place for such a dialog to occur, and The Winnipeg Foundation was honoured to host our colleagues for this important discussion.”

PARTICIPATING COMMUNITY FOUNDATIONS

Community Foundations of Canada
Calgary Foundation
Edmonton Community Foundation
Foundation of Greater Montreal
Hamilton Community Foundation
Kitchener Waterloo Community Foundation
London Community Foundation
The Oakville Community Foundation
Ottawa Community Foundation
South Saskatchewan Community Foundation
Toronto Foundation
Vancouver Foundation
The Winnipeg Foundation
When we hear the words ‘climate change’, global warming and melting glaciers come to mind. But what about stress, health problems, and nutrition challenges? These elements of our health – and many others – are all affected by climate change.

The Winnipeg Foundation, in partnership with Green Action Centre, presented a Vital Conversation called Your Health: The Risks and Realities of Climate Change. The event was held at the University of Manitoba’s Bannatyne Campus in September. Approximately 150 people gathered to hear a keynote presentation by Kim Perrotta, Senior Director for Climate Health and Policy at the Canadian Association of Physicians for the Environment (CAPE).

Heat and weather extremes, air pollution, food and water insecurity and the stress that go along with the uncertainty of these events, are all examples of the direct impact climate change is having on the health of Canadians, Perrotta says. But with crisis comes opportunity – the benefits that climate solutions can have on our health.

Solutions like using public transit, walking and cycling have the immediate health benefit of increasing physical activity, improving mental health, fostering childhood development and reducing some types of cancers and diseases.

Perrotta was joined by panelists, Dr. Ian Mauro from the Prairie Climate Centre, and Heather Mitchell, Sustainable Transportation Coordinator for Winnipeg’s Green Action Centre. Dr. Mauro, a world-renowned filmmaker, environmental and social scientist, demonstrated the Prairie Climate Atlas, an interactive website developed by the Centre that uses climate science, mapping and storytelling to bring the global issue of climate change closer to home.

Mitchell outlined Winnipeg-based transportation initiatives, such as the Commuter Challenge, GoManitoba and Peg City Car Co-op, which are having real impact on greenhouse gas emissions and citizens’ health.

“Researchers and advocates are urging us towards collective, systemic change in order to meet our targets, which is both necessary and important, but Green Action Centre doesn’t want to lose sight of how important individual actions are,” Mitchell says.

Vital Conversations convene citizens on issues of importance, as determined by the community. They were born out of the community’s enthusiastic response to sessions held as a part of Winnipeg’s 2017 Vital Signs® initiative.

Find out more: winnipegvitalsigns.org

Canadian Association of Physicians for the Environment (CAPE)’s Senior Director for Climate Health and Policy, Kim Perrotta (left) discusses the impacts of climate change on our health during a Vital Conversation.
EVERY CHILD MATTERS

On Sept. 30, Foundation staff joined thousands of Canadians observing Orange Shirt Day by wearing a shirt designed by Jordan Stranger. The shirts feature an image, commissioned by The Foundation, showing a community of children surrounded by trees and nature with the home – a Tipi – as the foundation. The image represents what happens when families are whole, when love is prevalent and can flourish.

Orange Shirt Day began in 2013 after Phyllis Webstad shared her experience of having her new orange shirt taken from her when she was only six-years-old on her first day at a residential school. Canadians are encouraged to wear orange on Sept. 30 to raise awareness of residential schools and to honour the healing journeys of Indigenous survivors and their families.

Foundation Staff with Jordan Stranger (centre, kneeling).

RESTORES ENCOURAGE REUSE

In early September, Habitat for Humanity opened the Winnipeg’s third ReStore on Inkster Boulevard. It joins the other locations, on Ellice Avenue and Archibald Street, reselling new or gently used building materials and products that would otherwise end up in the landfill.

ReStores, founded in Winnipeg in 1991, have more than 100 locations across Canada and more than 1,000 around the world, reducing waste and supporting the Habitat for Humanity work in their communities. Last year, Manitoba ReStores diverted more than 3,000 tonnes of material from our landfills.

Habitat for Humanity’s newest ReStore is located on Inkster Boulevard. Photo courtesy of Habitat for Humanity.

GARDEN PARTY FOR A CAUSE

The Floriography (Victorian language of flowers) Garden Party was presented by Ayoko Design and Pineridge Hollow in late July. Held on the beautiful grounds of Pineridge, it showcased five outdoor entertaining vignettes styled by local interior designers, decorators and florists, and 20 local vendors selling fresh flowers, art, food, fashion and handmade wares.

It was the official launch of the Anthologie Project, a curated collection of books featuring local design, art, food, fashion and handmade wares in support of Winnipeg charities. The project raises funds for important causes including Habitat for Humanity, Winnipeg Humane Society, Canadian Mental Health Association and The Winnipeg Foundation.

Learn more and find out where you can buy your copies: ayokodesign.com

Designs featured at Floriography Garden Party.

KARI URQUHART

Kari Urquhart lived a strong, generous life. Diagnosed with kidney disease at a young age, she underwent three kidney transplants. Her experiences led her to a life of giving. She set up both the O’Reilly Urquhart Family Foundation Fund and the O’Reilly Urquhart Family “YCDI” (You Can Do It) Scholarship Fund through The Winnipeg Foundation. Kari and her husband Dave are featured in our Causes campaign.

Kari passed away earlier this year. Her commitment to the community will live on through lasting impact.

THE EVIE GOES TO...

On Nov 4, the Winnipeg Theatre Awards honoured our local theatre talent at its third Evies. Awards were handed out for categories such as Outstanding Actor in a Lead Role, Outstanding Actor and Actress in a Lead Role, Outstanding Direction, Career Contribution and Theatre Champion, recognizing performances and production during the September 2018 to August 2019 season.

The awards are named after Evelyne “Evie” Anderson, whose career spanned more than 50 years with diverse performances in productions with Royal Manitoba Theatre Centre, Rainbow Stage, Prairie Theatre Exchange, Manitoba Theatre for Young People, and many more companies.

Congratulations to all the award winners for elevating the artistry in our theatre community.

KARI URQUHART
HONOURED FOR EXCELLENCE

Earlier this year, Lieutenant Governor of Manitoba Janice C. Filmon appointed 12 outstanding Manitobans to the Order of Manitoba, our province's highest honour.

Barbara Nepinak and Clarence Nepinak were recognized for their work in cross cultural awareness and preservation of Indigenous culture and languages. Steven Schipper and Trudy Schroeder were recognized for their leadership and dedication to our arts community while Harvey Secter was recognized for his contributions to the University of Manitoba and the Faculty of Law and his philanthropy.

The Order of Manitoba honours Manitobans dedicated to excellence and the well-being of our province and its residents. Congratulations to all the 2019 recipients.

Steven Schipper was a guest on season 1 of the BeCause & Effect podcast, hosted by The Foundation's Nolan Bicknell. To hear about the Causes that inspire his work, head to BeCauseandEffect.org. Read more about the podcast on page 48.

100 YEARS OF CHEER

In 1919, churches across Winnipeg began providing Christmas hampers and toys for the widows and orphans of the soldiers lost during World War I but quickly realized many other families were struggling during the holiday season. As the project grew, churches worked together to coordinate assembling and delivery of the hampers. In the mid-’40s, the churches came together to form the Christmas Cheer Board to better assist families in need. The need continues today with the Board providing more than 17,000 hampers and gifts annually.

Thank you to the Christmas Cheer Board for spreading joy during the holiday season for 100 years and to Executive Director, Kai Madsen for his leadership.

Madsen began delivering hampers 50 years ago and has led the organization for the past 25 years.

The Christmas Cheer Board representatives at the Lieutenant Governor’s reception honoring the organization and its volunteers held Oct. 1 (from left to right): The honorable Gary Filmon, Sheila Worboys, Linda Grayston, Susan Gill, and Kai Madsen. Photo courtesy of the Christmas Cheer Board.

WINTER WEAR FOR AGAPE CLIENTS

Agape Table, which serves vulnerable Winnipeggers through its soup kitchen, food bank and low-cost grocery store, lost huge amounts of stock in a massive warehouse blaze in July.

When Agape put out a call for donations, Foundation staff answered by collecting winter clothes.

Thanks to Agape Table for their great work supporting those in need!

The Foundation’s Neneth Bañas, Brigette DePape and Jen Lucas deliver winter gear to Agape Table.

SIGNATURE AWARDS

We’re thrilled The Foundation’s Working Together magazine and Causes campaign were shortlisted for this year’s Signature Awards.

Working Together magazine was nominated in the Consumer Publication Design category, and the BeCause Campaign was nominated in the Print (Single or Series) category.

This year marked the 31st anniversary of the Signature Awards, which are presented by the Advertising Association of Winnipeg.
Honouring those who have shaped our community through The Foundation

Manitoba’s first woman MLA: Edith MacTavish Rogers

Two simple words – walking together – represent The Winnipeg Foundation’s aspiration for our 2019-2021 Strategic Plan. While brief, these words have deep meaning and responsibility. These words are optimistic in spirit and are a call to action in their own right; they are a call for a community brim full of possibility to develop deepened understanding through the power of many partners.

In the months leading up to April 2021, the 100th anniversary of the creation of The Winnipeg Foundation, we are seizing the opportunity to delve into stories from our very beginnings. Some of these stories may be well known from publications during past decades, and from archival records. We affectionately refer to the years between 1951 and 1997 as our middle age. In regular postings, we’ll share stories and reflections on people, events and initiatives that continue to inspire us. Stay tuned.

The Winnipeg Foundation has been described as a “Legacy of Dreams.” At the core of The Winnipeg Foundation’s mission are people. People of vision, people who care enough to mobilize, people who believe in a better future For All.

It is timely to start near the very beginning of The Foundation’s story. Edith MacTavish Rogers was born at Norway House in 1876, daughter of D.C. MacTavish, former Chief Factor of the Hudson’s Bay Company. She grew up in Norway House in a lively Cree Metis family. In 1920 Edith Rogers became the first woman elected to the Manitoba Legislature. An early and active advocate of the Child Welfare Act, she was an energetic volunteer in the social welfare field. She served as the only woman on the then Winnipeg General Hospital Board. Of enduring importance to the Winnipeg community, Edith Rogers introduced the legislation that incorporated The Winnipeg Foundation as the first community foundation in Canada. The newly renovated Winnipeg Gallery at the Manitoba Museum displays personal items donated by Edith’s descendants.

A shared history of promise, thanks to those who have gone before us.
As we approach our centennial in 2021, The Foundation is excited to bring you snippets from our history! We will devote a page in each issue of our magazine to archival information.

Do you have an item for consideration? Please contact us at comms@wpgfdn.org

If you were attending the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra on the evening of Dec. 3, 1959, you would have read this announcement of the launch of the WSO’s Agency Fund at The Winnipeg Foundation, in the program.

Fun Fact: The WSO’s endowment fund at The Winnipeg Foundation, created in 1958, was the first Agency Fund established in The Foundation’s history.

Today, The Winnipeg Foundation is home to 430 Agency Funds set up by a variety of charities. Agency Funds provide organizations with an annual source of revenue to be used at their discretion.
Anita Southall is a partner with Fillmore Riley LLP and practices in the area of estates and trusts management, including estate administration and litigation and administrative law. She was recently elected President of the Law Society of Manitoba. Anita was appointed to The Foundation’s Board in 2017.

Q: One of your early roles with The Foundation was as co-chair of its Nourishing Potential Committee. Why did you agree to serve on that Committee and what did you learn during that tenure?

A: I had been on The Foundation’s Professional Advisors Committee and enjoyed that, however I had a desire to participate in a child-centred charitable activity. So, when I was approached to serve on the Nourishing Potential Committee, it was a perfect fit.

I learned a significant amount about the various contributions by the government, education and charitable sectors regarding supports for nutrition and nutrition education for children and youth. It was my first opportunity to see firsthand the impact local organizations were making in that field.

Q: You’re a lawyer practicing in the area of estates and trusts management. Can you provide any advice about effective estate planning?

A: Planning is more important than ever. The combination of people living longer but with potential health conditions, and of greater mobility with family members living throughout the world, means it’s not necessarily easy to sit around the table and talk about planning and what the family sees as important. However, this planning and communication is vitally important.

Blended families are also having a significant impact on estate planning and administration. When people with blended families are infirm, have mental capacity issues or when they die, their circumstances can create challenges even if there is a well-thought-out plan. Communication is extremely important, and everyone must understand why certain things are happening or what is unfolding in accordance with the plan.

Q: What have been your biggest takeaways since your appointment to The Foundation’s Board?

A: The sheer number of organizations reached through The Foundation’s 360-degree approach to granting has been eye-opening. My exposure to so many active organizations with dedicated staff and volunteers who are carrying out the mission of making Winnipeg a better place for all is one of my biggest takeaways. The only other thing that comes close is the commitment of the staff at The Foundation – and of my fellow Board and Committee members – and their dedicated, focused, positive and collaborative approach.
Elsewhere in this magazine there is a very good description of a recent symposium The Winnipeg Foundation hosted for leaders from Canadian community foundations. It was a three-day event where colleagues could reflect on human rights issues that are core to our community-building work. You can read the article on page 50.

Describing the agenda of what topics are discussed is different than the reality of actually participating. The stories shared were sometimes very personal. The speakers were more candid than might be the case in a larger public forum.

From the enthusiastic feedback we have already received, I know everyone has their own highlight. It was my first visit to a Mosque during prayers. The setting put all of us in a mindset to listen and better understand the realities of Islamophobia. I think it is natural to fear what you don’t understand. And certainly, the misunderstanding has been promoted by the entertainment industry and perhaps less intentionally by the news media. I won’t soon forget the lessons of that afternoon, and I know the experience will shape my future thinking.

Questions related to human rights have always been important to The Winnipeg Foundation. Our vision is ‘a Winnipeg where community life flourishes for all,’ and the last two words of that simple statement capture the essence of our mandate. The largest grant in our history ($6 million) went to the Canadian Museum for Human Rights. In looking at our grant-making priorities today, reconciliation between Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities is a prominent priority. The Foundation has also provided significant support for refugees and asylum seekers. We take serious interest in gender equity, the rights of the LGBTQIA community and the growing importance of the environment as a human right. Human rights cannot be segmented into individual elements because everything connects to everything else.

Winnipeg has defined itself as a City of Human Rights. While this leadership symposium was one small step, it does represent the ongoing challenge of finding the time and the means to grow our knowledge and commitment towards making the vision a reality.

“HUMAN RIGHTS CANNOT BE SEGMENTED INTO INDIVIDUAL ELEMENTS BECAUSE EVERYTHING CONNECTS TO EVERYTHING ELSE.”

– Rick Frost, Winnipeg Foundation CEO
RAINBOW COMMUNITY GARDEN HELPS NEWCOMERS GROW ROOTS.
READ MORE ON PAGE 12.