



COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION
GREY BRUCE

We're here for good.

REPORT TO THE
COMMUNITY
2021

Nature is Nurture

Community Foundation Grey Bruce is proud to grant to projects that support the environment, including a recent community grant to the Peninsula Bruce Trail Club for the Otter Lake Birding Platform. The Otter Lake Bird Observation Platform will protect the delicate wetland and will support environmental education, bird watching, and hiking activities by providing visual access to portions of the lake and bird species dependent upon it.

The future is green.

View of Dyer's Bay during a loop hike using the new Otter Lake Side Trail for the Peninsula Bruce Trail Club's Bird Observatory Platform Project in 2021.

Lake Huron Forever

unites Community Foundations on both sides of the Canada/US border aiming to improve the vibrancy of our communities by providing safe, accessible water and reducing polluted stormwater runoff through nature-based solutions. In 2020, Lake Huron Forever granted to the Lake Huron Coastal Conservation Centre's Green Ribbon Champion project in Saugeen Shores empowering coastal landowners to undertake dune restoration with native dune vegetation and sand-fencing.



**LAKE
HURON
FOREVER**



A Message from the Foundation

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION GREY BRUCE

REPORT TO THE
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2021

In this annual report to the community, we look back on a year in which the Community Foundation was needed more than ever. With the help of our partners, we were able to deliver more grants than in any previous year since inception, we saw our endowments grow to over 18 million dollars and we used our position as a knowledge keeper to reach out, listen, and reflect what we heard from people facing tumultuous times.

The COVID-19 pandemic that we have faced has galvanized our resolve and required us all to be disciplined and vigilant in our approach to our own health and protecting others. Through it all, our community has been resilient, responding to the challenges related to protecting public health, slowing the spread of the virus, and looking after each other in the process.

Back in May 2020, the Foundation released the results of a survey of regional charities and non-profits on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. The survey discussed the pandemic's effect on local organizations and how these organizations are dealing with community needs. The survey results revealed that many local organizations faced financial difficulties and even possible closure in the future. 87% of those charities surveyed, identified the cancellation of events and fundraising activities as a challenge. In March 2021, we checked in again with the same group and when asked what type of funding organizations needed to keep their doors open, 42% identified operational funding as their top need. For the spring grant intake in April 2021, the Foundation increased the allowance for operational support for projects to a total of 25% of the budget.

Since the start of the pandemic last March, Community Foundation Grey Bruce (CFGB) has granted more than 1.3 million dollars to charities and non-profits. In addition to our regular community grants, scholarships, bursaries and awards, the Foundation awarded monies made available by the Government of Canada through The Emergency Community Support Fund (ECSF) which aided organizations who were supporting vulnerable populations with the impacts of COVID, and the Investment Readiness Program granting non-repayable capital to social enterprises across Central Ontario. These two granting programs had two funding rounds, spring and fall 2020.

Partnerships have been key to our effectiveness. The Foundation worked alongside the United Way Bruce Grey on the adjudication of both Rounds of the ECSF and with Georgian College and SENCO (Social Enterprise Network of Central Ontario) on reaching out to the social enterprise ecosystem. Our communities have benefitted from these important alliances.

Due to the pandemic's impacts on local schools, projects supported by two grants of \$15,000 to support Vital Signs Youth Impact Grants, at schools in Grey and Bruce ran well into 2021. These grants were made possible through the RBC Future Launch Community Challenge program. With the support of RBC Future Launch, amidst the restrictions of the pandemic, Community Foundation Grey Bruce hosted two online interactive *Vital Conversations*® with young adults late in 2020. These *Vital Conversations*® engaged people between the ages of 18 and 30 on the impacts of the COVID-19, their readiness for a changing work environment, their economic and holistic wellbeing.

In 2021, the Foundation marks 27 years of community service in Grey Bruce and we continue to build our Next25 Fund that will help us ensure the vitality of all communities in our region for generations to come. Building our non-restricted resources ensures our Foundation has the capacity to address community needs as they arise, including crises like COVID-19. We are pleased to announce that the Next25 Fund continues to grow and has surpassed the \$140,000 mark.

As prudent stewards of community endowments, the Foundation saw our accumulated assets grow last year and many new funds were started by individuals, families, and local agencies. The office may have been closed to the public, but we were very busy working remotely to fulfil our vision: that everyone in Grey Bruce benefits from a vital, healthy, and resilient community.

We offer a big thank you to all those people who work so hard on behalf of our Foundation: our dedicated Board of Directors, industrious staff, and inspiring volunteers who work on committees, grant review teams or as Ambassadors. We are especially grateful to Board members Gail Norris,

Maureen Solecki and Dave Waddington who are completing their term of service. While on the Board, Gail has offered an informed perspective on behalf of fund holders, and was the Chair of the Fund Development and Marketing Committee. During her years on the Board, Maureen served as Board Chair from 2018 to 2020 and did an extra year in the role of Past Chair in 2020-21. Dave has led the grant review process for the last number of years as the Board representative. Thank you for exemplary service!

We also had some staffing changes last year as Sonya Mount concluded her term as Accountant in December 2020, and we were happy to welcome Kristy Hansford onboard in that capacity in January. This spring we also said goodbye to Wendy Bachiu, our Grants Coordinator, who retired and said welcome to Jennifer Isber-Legge who joined the Foundation as Grants & Donor Relations Coordinator in May 2021.

Change is the only constant. As the years go by and our Foundation evolves and matures, we deepen our connections and commitments to making Grey Bruce the best community in Canada. Thank you for your ongoing interest and support. We hope there will be an opportunity to celebrate together in the months ahead.

Keep safe and stay well,

Kerina Elliot, Chair

Stuart Reid, Executive Director

Board of Directors

2020- 2021



Francis
Chua



Kerina
Elliott, Chair



Cheryl Ann
Hynds



Terry
King



Kerry
Lee



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Leffley



Clarke
McLeod



Gail
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Maureen
Solecki,
Past Chair



Sharon
Vokes



Dave
Waddington

Our Staff in Nature



Kate Baker,
Financial
Administrator



Jennifer Isber-Legge
Grants & Donor
Relations



Kristy Hansford,
Accountant



Christine MacGregor,
Community Outreach
Officer



Stuart Reid,
Executive Director

Grey Bruce has
6 Community Funds
benefitting these
particular communities:

Grey Highlands
Meaford
Owen Sound
Township of Southgate
Saugeen Shores
Kincardine

New Funds

Bachiu Family Visual Arts Education Endowed Fund supports students in a full-time visual arts program.

Blue Mountain Legacy Fund supports diverse projects by charities and non-profits in the Town of Blue Mountains.

Feeding Families Fund supports funding requests related to food security and hunger relief.

Kelly Graham Legacy Fund supports the health and wellbeing of girls and women including career advancement and success.

The Colleen Trask-Seaman Share with OSHaRE Endowed Fund supports the ongoing operations of Owen Sound Hunger and Relief Effort (OSHARE).

Township of Southgate Community Fund supports community projects, programs and charities that will enrich the quality of life for the people in the Township of Southgate.

Community Foundation Grey Bruce manages more than 160 funds.

Happy Retirement, Wendy!

Wendy Bachiu, our Grants and Scholarship Coordinator, retired after 15 years at the Foundation! Over these many years she developed strong relationships with all the organizations, donors and fundholders that we serve. She fulfilled many roles and saw much of the Foundation's history unfold. Her breadth of knowledge of Grey Bruce and her passionate commitment to philanthropy was valued. Wendy is a new fundholder at CFGB, having established the Bachiu Family Visual Arts Education Fund in 2021, so, she will always be in the Foundation family as a fundholder. We want to thank Wendy for her many years of service and wish her every happiness in her retirement.



Peninsula Bruce Trail Club
Otter Lake Bird Observation Platform

Round Two of the Emergency Community Support Fund

CFGB was proud to take part in the second round of funding of the Government of Canada's Emergency Community Support Fund in fall 2020, alongside Community Foundations of Canada, the Canadian Red Cross and United Way Centraide Canada. Together we flowed even more support to organizations making a difference in our community. CFGB supported five additional organizations in Round 2 including a grant of more than \$45k to Reach Centre Grey Bruce for their COVID response project supporting individuals with intellectual or developmental disabilities that ensured safe social spacing, caregiver respite and inclusion of remote service supports for individuals in continued isolation.

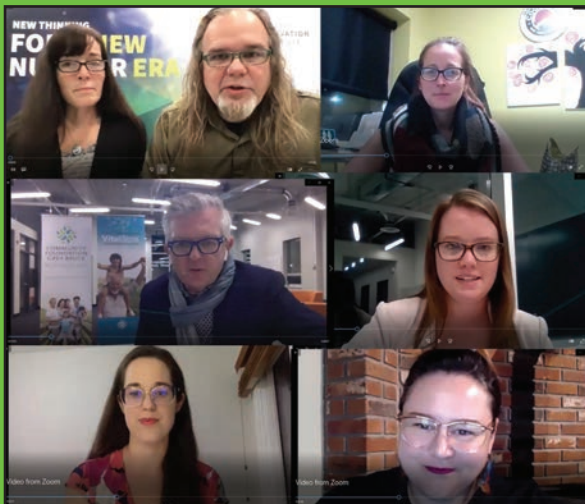
Thank You To Our Volunteers

Special thanks to our Ambassadors who build awareness about the Community Foundation across our region. This year, our Ambassador Forum was hosted virtually and provided the opportunity to share resources and discuss updates.

Community Foundation Grey Bruce Balance Sheet

December 31	2020	2019
Assets:		
Current		
Cash	\$ 193,208	\$ 85,452
Investments	18,356,618	17,385,096
Cash Surrender Value of Life Insurance	10,054	5,743
Accounts Receivable	13,593	29,028
Prepaid Expenses	1,243	1,243
	<u>\$18,574,716</u>	<u>\$17,506,562</u>
Liabilities and Fund Balances:		
Current		
Accounts Payable	\$ 21,726	\$ 43,020
Fund Balances		
Externally Restricted		
Endowments	15,768,855	15,408,230
Donor Restricted	2,458,790	1,796,409
Operating	325,345	258,903
	<u>18,552,990</u>	<u>17,463,542</u>
	<u>\$18,574,716</u>	<u>\$17,506,562</u>

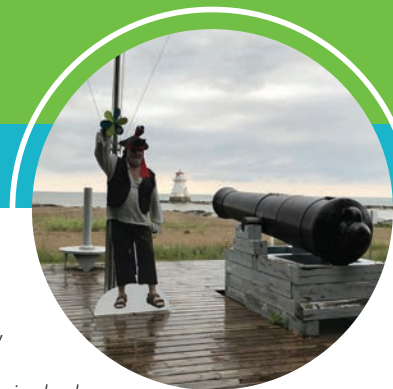
Audited statement, prepared by BDO Canada LLP,
available online at www.communityfoundationgreybruce.com



Vital Conversations® With Youth

With the support of RBC Future Launch, amidst the restrictions of the pandemic, Community Foundation Grey Bruce hosted two online interactive *Vital Conversations*® with young adults late in 2020. These *Vital Conversations*® engaged people between the ages of 18 and 30 on the impacts of the COVID-19, their readiness for a changing work environment, their economic and holistic wellbeing. These sessions emphasized the importance of collaboration and partnerships in forging any type of entrepreneurial endeavour. Young adults are also very concerned about supports for mental wellness within their workplaces and homelife, the effects of rural isolation coupled with the lack of regional transportation in Grey Bruce, as well as the challenge of accessing reliable WIFI to stay connected. These *Vital Conversations*® were generously sponsored by RBC Future Launch and are mounted with the support of key community partners: Georgian College's Centre for Changemaking and Social Innovation, through their strategic initiative SENCO (Social Enterprise Network of Central Ontario); The Institute of Southern Georgian Bay; and the Nuclear Innovation Institute.

↖ *Vital Conversations*® facilitators and presenters.



Captain Wayne Sparrow holds the Community Foundation Grey Bruce pinwheel at the flag in Southampton to represent the virtual Marine Heritage Festival that was supported by a Spring Community Grant in 2021.



Community Foundation Grey Bruce launched the Next25 Fund in 2019 with a goal of raising \$250,000 in non-restricted funds to help address the greatest community needs as they arise and to build resilience with an eye to the future. Non-restricted funds mean that the grants generated from those endowed funds can be directed toward causes that are defined in CFGB's *Vital Signs*® reports.

Grants in Action



Beautiful and delicious food created by students in the Youth Culinary Internship program and Chef Zach Keeshig at Elephant Thoughts Educational Outreach Riverstone Retreat. The outdoor gathering space and Community Gardens were supported by a Spring Community Grant in 2021.

Investment Readiness Program supports 19 local projects including Bagida'waad Alliance



Community Foundation Grey Bruce awarded \$755,222 in two rounds of funding to nineteen social purpose organizations in Central Ontario, as part of the Government of Canada's Investment Readiness Program. Bagida'waad Alliance in Neyaashiinigmiing is a project recipient of funding to support a tourism-based project offering accommodation and experiences including language class, Indigenous craft, guided hikes by community members, storytelling from Elders, and stewardship practices by community members of Neyaashiinigmiing.



Saugeen Valley Safety Village is welcoming classes safely during the pandemic thanks to a Spring 2021 Community Grant.



Events for Life in Meaford received a community grant in 2020 to support moving their programs outside during the pandemic.



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We're here for good.

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Community Foundation Grey Bruce



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With appreciation, we thank our community partners and sponsors:



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