

2023 ANNUAL REPORT



Muskoka
Community
Foundation

All for community

As a Community Foundation, we are driven to build a strong and vibrant Muskoka — yet we see higher demands placed on our local charities and nonprofits to address our community's biggest issues. The needs are great: affordable housing, mental health services, food security, health care, education, reconciliation, environmental protection, and community building — to only name a few.

Despite a difficult year, our community showed up to support the work of these organizations in many meaningful ways. This Annual Report shares the impact of our donors, but more than this, it shares the story of our community's resilience.

The Muskoka Community Foundation would like to acknowledge that the District Municipality of Muskoka is the traditional territories of the Ojibway, the Chippewa, the Algonquin and the Odawa. Today Muskoka is home to three sovereign nations: Wahta Mohawks First Nations, Moose Deer Point First Nation and the Moon River Métis. These lands are covered by the Williams Treaty of 1923, the Robinson Huron Treaty of 1850 and the J. Collins land purchase of 1785.

GRANTING WITH IMPACT

Since 2007, the Muskoka Community Foundation has granted just over \$2 million to charitable organizations in Muskoka and beyond through funds held at the Muskoka Community Foundation and by participating in national granting programs coordinated by the Community Foundations of Canada.

2023 BY THE NUMBERS

20

funds under
management

\$590,000

awarded to charities
operating in Muskoka
and beyond

32

community service
organizations and
others supported



A NOTE TO OUR DONORS

We want to thank our donors who have created funds with the Foundation, and all those who made contributions to these funds over the last year. Their compassion and dedication to supporting their community allows the Muskoka Community Foundation to provide grants that make a difference in the lives of people in Muskoka.

In addition, we would also like to thank the Community Foundations of Canada and the Federal Government for the opportunity to participate in the Communities Services Recovery Fund.

Thank you



WHO ARE OUR DONORS?



They are individuals, families and community groups that hold a special place in their hearts for Muskoka.



They want to see Muskoka remain a vital and healthy community that is inclusive of all who live here.



They want to ensure that Muskoka's environment remains healthy and available for all to enjoy.



They support the pursuit of higher education with the hope that young people will return to Muskoka and contribute to the local economy.



They support mental health and wellness initiatives in Muskoka and Parry Sound.



They believe in the importance of reconciliation and social justice.



ANNUAL GRANTING

Residents Against Muskoka
Poverty (RAMP) Fund

YMCA Simcoe Muskoka | CAP (Christians Against Poverty) | Big Brothers Big Sisters of Muskoka | GAP (Gravenhurst Against Poverty) | Habitat for Humanity Ontario Gateway North YWCA Muskoka | Peter and Eve Willis Bursary Fund (at Muskoka Community Foundation)

Black Point Fund

MiND-AID Muskoka

Paul and Ruby Erb Fund

Manna Food Bank | Food4Kids Muskoka

Uffelmann Family Fund

Huntsville Hospital Foundation | Shania Kids Can Clubhouse at Irwin Memorial Public School

Peggy Clark Guiry Happy
Dancing Feet Fund

Hospice Muskoka

We are stronger

Cowan Family Fund

Orillia Soldiers' Memorial Hospital Foundation | Collingwood General and Marine Hospital Foundation | Muskoka Steamships and Discovery Centre | GAP (Gravenhurst Against Poverty)

Goodwin Family Fund

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Muskoka | Muskoka Concert Band | 1st Gravenhurst Scouts

Dara's Fund

Food4Kids Muskoka

Lowden Family Fund

CFUW Muskoka Chapter Bursary Fund | YWCA Muskoka | Alzheimer's Society of Muskoka
Therapeutic Paws Muskoka Chapter | Big Brothers Big Sisters of Muskoka

Youth Citizenship and Service Fund

Supported students from Irwin Memorial Public School so they could attend school trips taking place outside of Muskoka

Together.

EDUCATION BURSARIES AND AWARDS

Peter and Eve Willis Bursary
Fund

3 students pursuing the trades | Fleming College, Fanshawe College, and Conestoga College

Paul and Ruby Erb Fund

2 students | Algonquin College and Nipissing University

Coco Bear Fund

2 students | Mohawk College and Concordia University

Peggy Clark Guiry Happy
Dancing Feet Fund

2 students | University of Waterloo

South and Central Almaguin
Fund

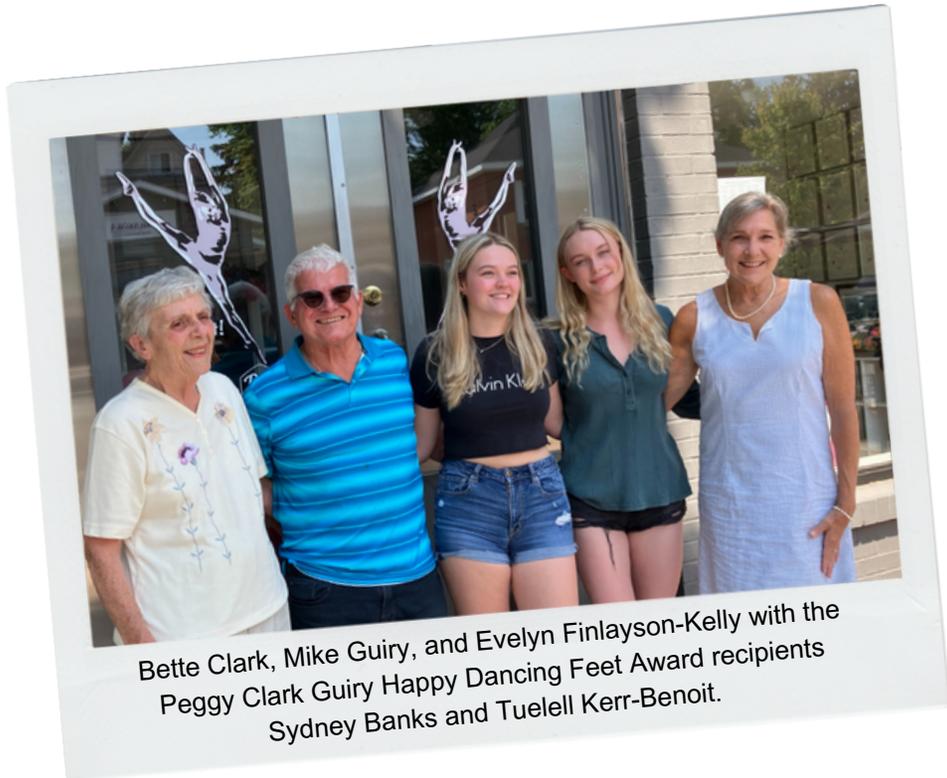
3 students | Queen's University, York University, and Canadore College

Stan Darling Environmental
Education Fund

5 students | University of Guelph, Laurentian University, University of Ottawa, and Huron University

I am incredibly grateful to have been chosen for this generous award. It will help offset my future expenses. Stan Darling made great strides as a protector of our environment in a time when that may have proven difficult, so I am very proud to receive an award in his honour.

2023 Recipient of the Stan Darling Environmental Education Fund



Bette Clark, Mike Guiry, and Evelyn Finlayson-Kelly with the Peggy Clark Guiry Happy Dancing Feet Award recipients Sydney Banks and Tuelell Kerr-Benoit.



Keith Montgomery, Chair of the Stan Darling Environmental Education Fund Award Committee, and Ewan David, recipient from St. Dominic Catholic Secondary School

Thank you for the generous contribution to my education through the Coco Bear Fund. It was such an unexpected surprise and will be a great help in funding my education. With thanks and a grateful heart.

2023 Recipient of the Coco Bear Fund

SPECIAL DONORS

Throughout 2023, the Muskoka Community Foundation received several gifts from donors that were used to support special projects and organizations in Muskoka.

Norway Point Community Church

supported food insecurity programs at The Table Food Bank, Salvation Army Huntsville Food Bank, Winter Pantry Dorset and Lake of Bays, Manna Food Bank, Salvation Army South Muskoka (Gravenhurst and Bracebridge Food Banks), Baxter Ward Food Bank, MacTier Food Bank, GAP (Gravenhurst Against Poverty), West Muskoka Food Bank, and the Shania Kids Can Clubhouse at Irwin Memorial Public School in Dwight.

Special Donor #1

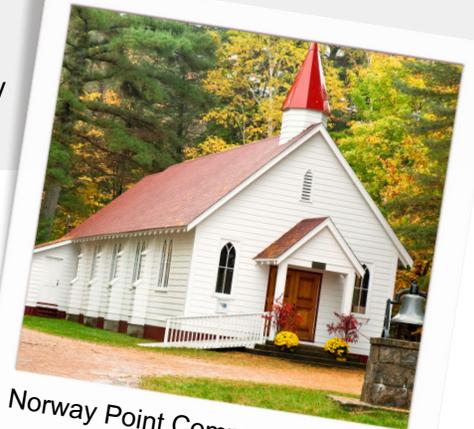
supported the creation of the Muskoka — Parry Sound Indigenous Bursary Fund.

Special Donor #2

supported the Rotary Club of Gravenhurst, Hospice Muskoka, South Muskoka Hospital Foundation, YWCA Muskoka Legacy Fund held at the Muskoka Community Foundation, GAP (Gravenhurst Against Poverty), and Trinity United Church Gravenhurst's community outreach programs.

Special Donor #3

supported the Shania Kids Can Clubhouse at Irwin Memorial Public School in Dwight.



Norway Point Community Church
in Baysville

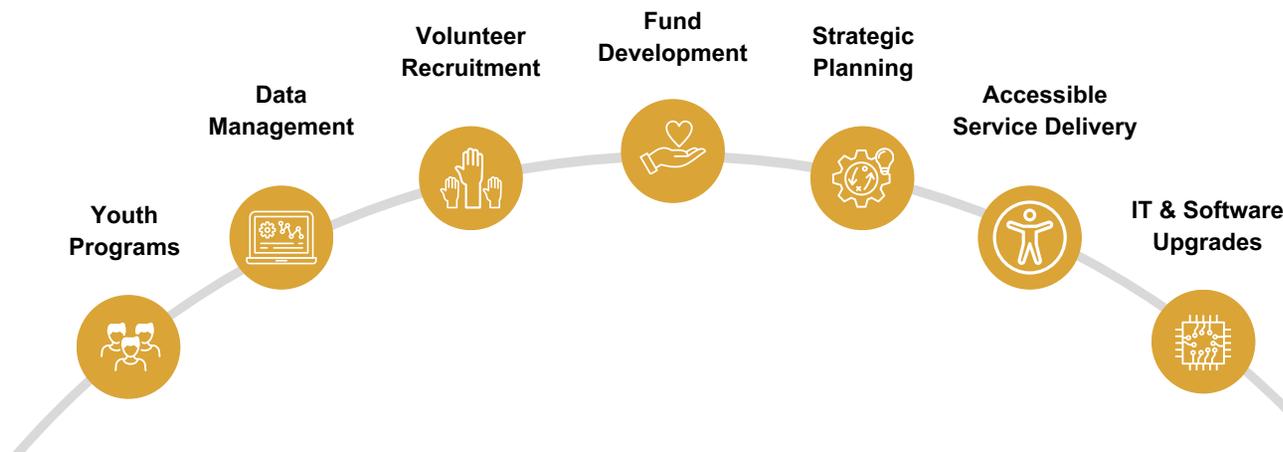
COMMUNITY SERVICES RECOVERY FUND

Our Foundation was one of the participating community foundations to distribute the Government of Canada's Community Services Recovery Fund, a collaboration between Canadian Red Cross, Community Foundations of Canada, and United Way Centraide Canada. The fund assisted local community service organizations to recover from the pandemic by supporting their needs to adapt, modernize, and strengthen their services for the future.

RECIPIENTS

Community Living Parry Sound
Enliven Cancer Centre
Friends of the Muskoka Watershed
Gravenhurst Against Poverty
Hospice Muskoka

Habitat for Humanity Ontario Gateway North
MiND-AID Muskoka
Muskoka Lakes Museum
Victory Valley Farms
YWCA Muskoka



NEW FUNDS

In 2023, our Foundation partnered with donors to create 6 new funds to address needs in Muskoka and Parry Sound and help our communities thrive.



Muskoka — Parry Sound Indigenous Bursary Fund

In partnership with Indspire's Building Brighter Futures bursary program, the Muskoka – Parry Sound Indigenous Bursary Fund will provide an annual bursary of \$2,000 and will be awarded to a graduating Indigenous student residing in the Districts of Muskoka and Parry Sound who are pursuing post-secondary studies at a Canadian institution.



The DOC ROB Fund

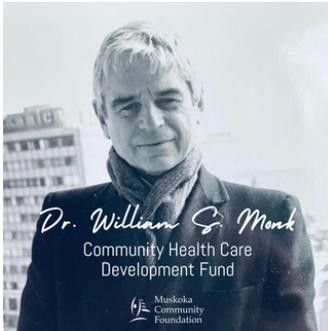
This fund was created in memory of Dr. Rob Stevens, who died by suicide in December 2017. During his lifetime, Dr. Rob helped save many lives; through his legacy, it is hoped that many more lives will be saved by advocating for those suffering with mental illness, creating awareness, and encouraging ongoing conversations about mental health. The fund will provide grants to organizations and programs in the District of Parry Sound that address mental health and wellness, suicide awareness and prevention, and youth mental health.

New possibilities



The Muskoka Environment Fund

This fund will provide grants to charities in Muskoka that are working to conserve and protect Muskoka's natural environment. The fund will also provide support to organizations that raise awareness and provide educational programming about the importance of protecting and creating a healthy Muskoka environment.



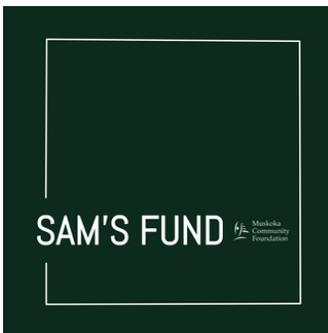
The Dr. William S. Monk Community Development Fund

In memory of local physician Dr. William S. Monk, this newly established fund works with local community partners to support initiatives to attract, develop, and retain primary health care workers in Muskoka.



YWCA Muskoka Legacy Fund

For those who share YWCA Muskoka's vision to build a world in which girls, women, and gender-diverse people thrive in a safe and equitable society, this fund was established as a long-term solution to ensure YWCA Muskoka can deliver community-based services throughout the coming decades and beyond.



Sam's Fund

We are pleased to welcome Sam's Fund to the Muskoka Community Foundation. We look forward to working with this donor to make a lasting impact by providing a hand up to those most in need.

FUND UPDATES

The Muskoka Community Foundation would like to thank the donors who created temporary flow-through funds. These funds were designed to disburse grants for a set period of time. The following funds made their final grants in 2023.

The Smart and Caring Muskoka Fund
The Black Point Fund

Peggy Clark Guiry Happy Dancing Feet Fund
Patricia's Fund



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

In 2023, the Muskoka Community Foundation published its third Vital Signs Report highlighting some of the most pressing issues and challenges impacting Muskoka. We would like to thank everyone who helps by contributing data that makes up the report, and to those who share the report with friends, family, neighbours and colleagues.

We also want to thank the students in Ms. Bulloch's Art Class at Gravenhurst High School for creating the beautiful cover for the 2023 report. Their creativity and talent were a wonderful addition to the issue!



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Muskoka Community Foundation is fortunate to have a dedicated group of individuals who make up our Board of Directors and serve on various committees.

Glen Norton, Chair
Tina Kilbourne, Vice Chair
Bob Collins, Treasurer
Ruth Nishikawa, Secretary
Bill Fee, Past Chair
Marilyn Jeffrey, Director

Kim Doughty, Director
Coel Balmer, Director
Val Fleck, Director
Stu MacKinnon, Director
Richard Hay, Director

Investment Committee Members

Our Foundation would also like to acknowledge the members of the Investment Committee who volunteer their time and expertise.

Ted Ecclestone
Jock MacDonald
Michael Sprung

Guy Burry
Dave Uffelmann



The difference we make together.





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